

FM/GC

FT

MEADE

PZ 3

.J6444

H5

Copy 1



Class PZ3

Book J6AAA

H  
5-









Dec 20 1867 1 vol. in  
Boards East of US.

2285  
4351





R. Fisher 17 382

MAGDELAMA who Reigns CHIEF QUEEN:

*of all the South American Tribes the greatest Beauty of her day*

6 Feet 4 Inches high



141  
La C

**A HISTORY**  
**OF THE**  
**HAUNTED CAVERNS OF MAGDELANA,**  
**AN INDIAN QUEEN OF SOUTH AMERICA,**  
**WITH HER LIKENESS.**

**WRITTEN BY DR. JAMES JOHNSTON.**

DURING A CAPTIVITY OF THREE YEARS, BEING TAKEN UP AS A  
SPY BY THE ABOVE QUEEN, AND NEAR THE EXPIRATION OF  
HIS TIME, TRIED BY THEIR LAWS FOR ATTEMPTING HIS ES-  
CAPE, FOUND GUILTY, AND SENTENCED TO DEATH IN THEIR  
BARBAROUS WAY, TO BE STUCK FULL OF LIGHT WOOD SPLIN-  
TERS, SET ON FIRE, AND KEPT DYING FOR SEVERAL DAYS.  
WITH THE AUTHOR'S TRIAL, AND LAST SPEECH TO THE IN-  
DIAN KINGS AND CHIEFS, TOGETHER WITH HIS ORATION ON  
THE STAGE, AT THE KING'S REQUEST, IN ORDER TO TEACH  
THEM THE BETTER TO GOVERN THEIR COUNTRY, AND NUME-  
ROUS SUBJECTS. WITH THE RISE AND PROGRESS OF THE IN-  
DIAN TRIBES, AND THAT OF THE WHITE INHABITANTS OF  
SOUTH AMERICA.

Published for the relief of the Author, who lost his all  
by that tremendous fire at Savannah, as before stated in  
the public papers.

35

**PHILADELPHIA:**  
PRINTED FOR JAMES SHARON.  
MDCCCXXI.

Price 87 1-2 cents.





PZ 3  
J 6444  
H  
5

EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA, to wit:

BE IT REMEMBERED, that on the 1st day of March, in the forty-fifth year of the Independence of the United States of America, A. D. 1821, JAMES SHARON, of the said district, hath deposited in this office the title of a book, the right whereof he claims as proprietor in the words following, to wit:

*"A History of the Haunted Caverns of Magdelama, an Indian Queen of South America, with her Likeness. Written by Dr. James Johnston, during a captivity of three years, being taken up as a spy by the above Queen, and near the expiration of his time, tried by their laws for attempting his escape, found guilty, and sentenced to death in their barbarous way, to be stuck full of light wood splinters, set on fire, and kept dying for several days. With the Author's trial, and last speech to the Indian kings and chiefs, together with his Oration on the stage, at the King's request, in order to teach them the better to govern their country, and numerous subjects. With the Rise and Progress of the Indian tribes, and that of the white inhabitants of South America. Published for the relief of the Author, who lost his all by that tremendous fire at Savannah, as before stated in the public papers."*

In conformity to the Act of the Congress of the United States entitled, "An act for the encouragement of learning, by securing the copies of maps, charts, and books to the authors and proprietors of such copies during the times therein mentioned." And also to the act, entitled, "An act supplementary to an act entitled "An act for the encouragement of learning, by securing the copies of maps, charts, and books, to the authors and proprietors of such copies during the times therein mentioned, and extending the benefits thereof to the arts of designing, engraving, and etching historical and other prints.

DAVID CALDWELL,  
*Clerk of the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.*



## A HISTORY, &c.

---

THE following remarkable circumstance, is from my own experience, in company of a Mr. Wm. Smith, who had formerly been a great traveller both by land and sea; and previous to the above, had travelled America pretty near to the extent of her almost unlimited boundaries, in every direction. This very accommodating gentleman, I employed to accompany me as a guide as well as a protector, throughout our numerous travels in the unfrequented wiles of America, the proceeding curious occurrence took place in the united provinces of South America, being then lost and bewildered for fifty-six days, during which time we never eat a morsel of food but the wild trash of the forests, such as leaves of trees, and the bark of the same. As we were travelling one evening in the sweet pleasant month of May, in the dominions of Brazil, which commanded a beautiful view of the Atlantic ocean, I being some distance in our march a-head of my companion Mr. Smith, I was very much surprised by beholding at a distance the appearance of a woman, attended with a train of young maids, who



all with pensive steps walked subserviently behind her, who appeared a much larger woman than those of her maids. The nigher this woman approached me, the more beautiful she appeared in my sight; I being then young, and destitute of that fortitude which is necessary to surmount the numerous difficulties into which youth are too frequently involved. It happened to be the case that this woman was as much, or perhaps more enamoured with my first appearance, than I was with hers. She being proprietor of a beautiful position not far distant from where we met her, entitled The Haunted Caverns of Magdelama, a curious and splendid residence; she being anxious and full of intrigue, at once seemed predetermined to compel me to her fond embraces, and in order to effect her design, made use of the following expression. O you bold intruders, said she, have you not heard of me, my name is Magdelama, the governess of these solitary mountains, from whom no bold invader goes unpunished.

I being somewhat alarmed at these expressions by way of threatenings, I naturally concluded that this surprising woman, as I took her to be, could certainly raise at a little times warning, perhaps a force of several men of the different tribes of Indians, in order to revenge her fury upon those on whom she wished to inflict some severe punishment. And as my guide, Mr. Smith was an old experienced man, and with me for the purpose of dictating in all matters of importance, I thought it a piece of prudence in such a case to have his counsel, who told me to make no exertions against her, but act with mildness,



and to endeavour to captivate her ferocious nature with kindness, and endearing speeches. Smith saw well the power this beautiful woman possessed, and the influence her appearance had on the other sex. Though of one of the Indian tribes herself, who are generally of a redish brown colour, she was almost white; tall, majestic, and as handsome as a limner could have drawn her. They are a people, said Smith to myself, who are much delighted with their own praise, and as I know your talents are equal to express something of a pleasing nature to the fair sex, commence with some flowery but sensible speeches in favour of this woman, and her present independent and noble situation in life, this conduct may be the means at length of this woman making us independent for ever, either by mines of gold, silver, or lands. I then commenced as follows:—O thou most beautiful part of the fair creation, as a virtuous fair one, you my charmer have captivated my innocent heart, and though I am so much in your power, I trust you possess too noble a mind to take any advantage of our forlorn, bewildered, and unfortunate situation. It is true the beautiful, as well as the virtuous women, is compared to the most brilliant stars of the firmament of heaven, and the influence of your power I perceive it is in vain to resist. The whiteness of your bosom transcendeth the lily, your smiles are far more delicious than a garden of roses, the kisses of your lips are sweeter than honey, and the perfumes wafted from fields of Arabian spices, issueth from thy interior system. Let not the greatest nobleman shut his bosom to the tenderness of



your love, for the purity of its flame shall enoble even the heart of an emperor, and soften it to receive the fairest impressions. Those few expressions in favour of this woman, very much changed the scene. She was immediately softened from the hardness of a flint rock, to that of a rose in the morning of its first bloom.

After I had expressed these few sentences, she made a motion for me to follow her; accordingly I followed this wonderful woman, who was accompanied by twenty-six young Indian women, almost as white and as beautiful as any of the fair sex in Europe. She signified that she pitied us very much, on account of our bewildered and lost situation, but come with me said she, to an asylum for that purpose, for it is now time that you should repair that strength by rest, which has been exhausted by labour and fatigue, travelling to such a disadvantage through those dreary mansions of America. I will receive you to my dwelling as my son; you shall be my comfort in this solitude; and if you are not voluntarily wretched, I will be your greatest friend through life's pilgrimage. I followed her, accompanied by these waiting maids, among whom she was distinguished by the superiority of her stature, as the towering summit of a lofty oak is seen in the midst of a forest, above all the trees that surround it. I was struck with the splendour of her beauty, the rich beauty of her long and flowing robe, her hair that was tied with graceful negligence behind her, and the vivacity and softness that were mingled in her eyes. Mr. Smith, my guide, followed after



at a distance: when we arrived at the entrance of her cave, I was surprised to discover under the appearance of rural simplicity; whatever could captivate the sight: there was indeed neither gold nor silver, nor marble; no decorated columns, no paintings, no statues were to be seen; but the grotto consisted of several vaults cut in a rock; the roof was embellished with shells and pebbles, and the want of tapestry was supplied by the luxuriance of a young vine, which extended its branches equally on every side. Here the heat of the sun was tempered by the freshness of the breeze; the rivulets that, with soothing murmurs, wandered through meadows of intermingled violets, and which formed innumerable baths that were pure and transparent as crystal. The verdant carpet which nature had spread round the grotto, or cave, was adorned with a thousand flowers; and, at a small distance, there was a wood of those trees that in every season of the year unfolds new blossoms, which diffuses ambrosial fragrance, and ripens into the most beautiful gold coloured fruit. In this wood, which was impervious to the rays of the sun, and heightened the beauty of the adjacent meadows by an agreeable opposition of light and shade; nothing was so pleasing to be heard as the melody of birds, or the fall of waters, which precipitating from the summit of a rock, was dashed into foam below; where, forming a small rivulet, it glided hastily over the meadows.

The cave of this admirable woman was situated on the declivity of a hill, and commanded a favourable prospect of the sea, sometimes smooth, peace-



ful, and limpid; at other times swelling into mountains, and breaking with idle rage against the shore. At another view a river was discovered, in which were many islands, surrounded with limes that were covered with flowers, and poplars that raised their haughty heads to the clouds: the streams which formed those islands seemed to stray through the fields with a kind of sportful wantonness; some rolled along in translucent waves with a tumultuous rapidity; some glided away in silence with a motion that was scarce perceptible; whilst others, after a long circuit, turned back, as if they wished to issue again from their source, and seemed unwilling to quit the paradise through which they flowed. The distant hills and mountains hid their summits in the blue vapours that hovered over them, and diversified the horizon with figures that were equally pleasing and romantic. The mountains that were less remote, were covered with vines, the branches of which were interwoven with each other, and hung down in festoons; the grapes, which surpassed in lustre the richest purple, were too exuberant to be concealed by the foliage, and the branches bowed under the weight of the fruit. The fig, the olive, the pomegranate, and other trees without number, overspread the plains; so that the whole country had the appearance of a garden of infinite variety and boundless extent. After this woman had displayed to me this profusion of beauty, she dismissed me: "Go now," said she, "refresh yourself, and change your apparel, which must be still wet from the rain through which you travelled, and I will afterwards



see you again, and relate such things as shall not amuse your ear only, but affect your heart also." She then caused me to enter, with my friend Smith, into the most secret recess of a cavern adjoining to her own: her young maids had already kindled up a fire with some billets of cedar, the better to accommodate us, her new guests. I then looked round this solitary mansion, and perceiving a tunis of the finest wool, whiter than snow, and a purple robe richly embroidered with gold, was, I supposed, intended for me. I contemplated the magnificence of my dress, with that pleasure to which young minds are easily betrayed. My worthy old companion, Mr. Smith perceived my weakness, and as a father reproved it: Are these then, said he, such thoughts as become such a blooming youth as you, who are now in the way of making an independent fortune, if you but possess sufficient fortitude to guard against the bewitching charms of the fair sex, blush said he at the thought of effeminacy, nor suffer the unvirtuous fair one to tempt you to excess in her delights, the madness of desire, shall dilate its own pursuits; from the blindness of rage you will rush upon destruction. But be mindful of my instructions, at least throughout this dangerous scene in which we are placed; for these are a particular tribe of Indians you see, almost as white and as beautiful as any people in the world; and I have oft times heard that they possess a magic art or witchcraft, therefore we may consider ourselves in confinement, nor dare we attempt to make our escape, least this woman, and those at her command, should put us



to some excruciating death, as they oft times do many of their own tribes, for the least offence. There is nothing but mildness and good nature, interspersed with a little flattery, will answer in our present situation.

Men, who like an unvirtuous woman, loves to adorn their person, has renounced all claim to wisdom and glory: for it is due to those only who dare to associate with pain, and have trampled pleasure under their feet. I then answered Smith with a sigh: no sir said I, I hope that I have been created for a more noble purpose than to suffer myself to be enslaved by voluptuous effeminacy; nor shall I ever be seduced by the charms of enervating and inglorious ease; but how fortunate we have been, lost and forlorn, to fall into the hands of this woman, who is daily loading us with benefits. "Fear rather," replied Smith, "least her friendship should overwhelm you with ruin; fear her deceitful blandishments more than the distresses of our bewildered and lost situation, for even death is less dangerous than those pleasures by which virtue is subverted. Believe not the tales which she shall relate; the presumption of youth hopes all things from itself, and however impotent, believes it has power over every event; it dreams of security in the midst of danger, and listens to subtility without suspicion. Beware of the seducing eloquence of this woman; that mischief which, like a serpent, is concealed by the flowers under which it approaches; dread the latent poison: trust not yourself, but confide implicitly in my counsel. As I am under the determination of befriend-



ing you throughout these trying moments, as well as all other difficulties, during our continuance together." Then we returned to this woman, Magdelama by name, who had been some time waiting for us; and her maids who were dressed in white, and had their hair braided, set before us a supper; which, though it was simple, and consisted only of such game as they had either taken with their nets, or killed in the chase, was yet of exquisite taste, and served up with the utmost elegance: wine more richly flavoured than nectar, was poured from large silver tankards, and sparkled in cups of gold that were wreathed with flowers; and baskets were heaped with all the variety of fruit that is promised by spring and bestowed by autumn. In the mean time four of the attendant maids began to sing, agreeable to their custom, some beautiful songs as a token of respect, as well as an accommodation for us their new guests. The songs were numerous, many of which were in memory of their Indian kings and chiefs, warriors that have been killed in battle by their enemies at war; the next was a song with a most enchanting and beautiful air, which from its melody, and beautiful sound which those numerous caverns gave it, my weak and innocent mind was affected, which extorted a tear from my languishing eyes, as it was a tune which my father in his lifetime had oft times sung to a favourite song, in order to please myself when a small boy.

As is customary among this tribe of Indians, when thinking of the conquests they have made over their enemies in battle, they raise their songs to a great



pitch, and extolled with all the hyperbole of praise. The principal of those young waiting maids, whose name was Phillima, to the harmonious voices of the chorus, joined the music lyre. I at that confused period, conceited among the numerous expressions in their songs, that I heard some of them mention the name of my father; the tears then which stole down my cheeks said Smith, added fresh lustre to my appearance: but Magdelama, perceiving that I was too sensibly touched, and neglected to eat, made a sign to her maids, and they immediately changed their song to something else. When supper was over Magdelama took me aside, and addressed me thus: "You see O stranger, with what favour I have received you: know you not that I possess an art, superior to any of the tribes of those southern regions, and it is in my power to destroy you and your companion in the twinkling of an eye; no human foot profanes this solitary mansion unpunished; nor would even your misfortunes have averted my indignation from you, if my heart was not touched with more than your misfortunes. My superior knowledge said Magdelama, dictates to me that you are under the resolute determination of making your elopement from my territories the first opportunity that offers, but be assured that you will hereafter repent it; for even the vessel that you should embark on board of, shall long be the sport of storm, and the tempestuous waves of the ocean, and at last perhaps, swallowed up in the deep. Let this foreknowledge, said she, influence your future conduct, as all hopes of ever again seeing your native coun-



try, and of succeeding to your father's possessions, are now at an end: but do not too much regret this loss, since you have found in me so great an advantage, namely, a wife, mother and protector, who offers you superior possessions, and more permanent felicity." After this declaration, she exerted all her eloquence to display the happiness she conferred upon me. I had too hastily congratulated myself upon the beauty of this woman, but perceived the mischief of her designs, and the wisdom of the counsel which had been given me some time previous by Mr. Smith.

I therefore answered in a few words, "Forgive me, O thou beauteous fair one, for involuntary sorrow; my heart is now only susceptible of regret, but I may be again capable of felicity. Suffer me now to pay at least a few tears to the memory of my deceased father, who was once my greatest friend in life, and admired me far more than jewels of inestimable value." Magdelama, perceiving that it was not at this time her interest to press me further, but feigned to participate my sorrow, and to regret with me the death of my affectionate father, together with our present lost and bewildered condition. That she might gain a more perfect knowledge of the means by which my affections were to be engaged, she inquired of me what part of the globe we had most travelled, and what fortunate wind had wafted us into her fond embraces. A detail of my misfortunes, madam said I, will be too long, and I fear weary your patience. However long said she, I am impatient to hear it, indulge me therefore with-



out delay." I as often refused, but she continued her solicitations, and at length I complied. Our first set out was from Philadelphia, in a vessel which I chartered destined for the city of St. Augustine, the metropolis of East Florida; during our voyage, which was but twenty-six days, we experienced some hard times; was dismasted, lost two of our best seamen, and drove by the violence of the storm on a sand bank, where we was obliged to remain for twelve days, until a spring tide took us off the bank, and a fair wind fortunately wafted us into a port to get repaired. After which we with cheerfulness proceeded on our voyage, and experienced no remarkable occurrence until the twentieth day of our being out, when one of our sailors perceiving from the mast-head a very small cloud, not larger from appearance than the size of a man's hat, but seemed to increase fast; all hands were immediately called to prepare for the impending danger, in which we were most likely in a short time to be encircled; and it was too soon the case, for in less than half an hour from the first appearance of the storm, it got so dark that the hands could scarcely see to work the ship; the wind freshened up from the north-west, and blew a hurricane indeed.

The damage we sustained by this violent storm, was the loss of our first mate, main and fore mast, and most of our rigging. But being all pretty full of good spirits, both natural and artificial, we rigged up the old bark with her one mast, and got into our destined port without any more difficulty, where we were kindly received by the Spanish citizens of the



city of St. Augustine, which is situated on the sea coast, in latitude  $29^{\circ} 45'$ : it is of an oblong figure, and intersected by four streets, which cut each at right angles. This city is strongly fortified. After we had made the necessary discoveries here, we proceeded on to South America; and during our pilgrimage, which was fifty-six days, destitute of every comfort, and without victuals, except the wild trash of the forests; nor have we for during that time beheld the sight of a single person, until we now have the pleasure of beholding your sweet self madam. This woman was much enamoured with the small detail of my travels which I related, but insisted that I should give her a small detail of my parentage. I have been informed, said I, that previous to my father's going abroad, he placed me upon his knees, threw his arms about me, and after he had kissed me with the utmost tenderness, pronounced these words, though I could not then, being but a child, understand their meaning: O my son may I perish before I see you again; or, may that mighty one cut the thread of your tender life while it is yet short, as the reaper cuts down a tender flower that is but beginning to blow, if you are one day to be corrupted and seduced from virtue! O my friends, I leave with you this son, whom I so tenderly love; watch over his infancy; if you have any love for me, keep flattery far from him; and while he is yet flexible, like a young plant, keep him upright. But above all, let nothing be forgotten that may render him just, benevolent, sincere and sacred. He that is capable of a lie, deserves not the name



of a man; and he that knows not how to be silent; is unworthy the dignity of a nobleman.

Magdelama, after being much gratified at my relation of the speech which my father made for my future happiness, permitted me a little while to go out of the cave to the top of it, in order to be benefitted by the fresh breeze. The prospect I beheld from this eminence was delightful; the evening was now perfectly serene, a few light clouds alone floated in the sky, their lucid skirts tinged with purple rays from the declining sun; the trees wore a brighter green, and the dew-drops that had heightened their verdure, yet glittered on their sprays; across a distant valley was extended a beautiful rainbow, the sacred record of heaven's covenant with man. As the weather previous to this was gloomy, all nature then appeared revived and animated; the birds now warbled their closing lays, and the bleating of the cattle was heard from the neighbouring hills: O how lovely, how sweet is the dewy landscape, exclaimed I, with that delight which scenes of calm and vernal nature never fail of raising in minds of tenderness, which mine have ever been from my earliest childhood, even to the present period. After I returned to the cavern, where Magdelama was impatiently waiting to see me, she pressed upon me again to relate some more of my adventures, which are too tedious to mention here, as there is something more interesting to substitute in their place. After having once more related another part of my travels to her, whilst she sat motionless with the greatest of attention; and much admired



at my memory, and appeared to possess an inexpressible delight, now interrupted me, that I enjoy some respite. "It is time," said she, "that after so many toils you should taste the sweets of repose, in this possession of mine you have nothing to fear; every thing is here subservient to your wishes; open your heart therefore to joy, and make room for all the blessings of peace, which I am preparing for you: and to-morrow, when the rosy finger of aurora shall unlock the golden doors of the east, and the steeds of Phæbus shall spring up from the deep, diffusing the beams of day, and driving before them the stars of heaven, you will I hope resume the history of your travels. May one deep and unbroken slumber render this night short to you; though to me alas! it will be wearisome and long. With what impatience shall I desire again to see you, and to hear your voice; and urge you to repeat what I have been told already; and inquire after what I am still to learn: go then my beloved stranger, said she, with your friend Smith, and retire into the cavern which is already prepared for your repose, and may Morpheus shed his benignest influence upon your eyelids, that are now heavy with fatigue, and bewildered with night walking; and diffuse a pleasing languor over your delightful heart, and sport around you; fill your imagination with glad ideas, and keep far from you whatever might chase them away too soon." She then conducted us unto the separate grotto, which was not less pleasant and rural than her own. In one part of it, the lulling murmurs of a fountain invited sleep to the weary; and in an-



Other, the young maids had prepared two beds of the softest moss, and covered them with two large skins; one with that of a lion, for myself, and the other with that of a dragon, for my friend Smith. We were now in separate beds, but in the same apartment. Before Smith resigned his eyes to sleep, he spoke to me thus: "The pleasures of so often relating your adventures, has I am afraid insnared you; for by displaying the dangers which you have surmounted by your courage and ingenuity, you have captivated this woman; and in proportion as you have inflamed her passion, you have I fear insured your own captivity. I fear she will not suffer us to depart from her enchanting residence, after you having displayed such power to please her: in order still to keep Magdelama in a good humour, proceed to-morrow morning in your account of the most interesting circumstances which have taken place during your numerous travels through life." This salutary advice was received by me with the same friendship with which it was given by Smith, and we immediately lay down to rest. During the night, about the hour of twelve, I was much alarmed by the weight of a cold hand laid on my forehead; being in the midst of my silent slumbers, I immediately started up out of bed, being half asleep, I ran through those extensive caverns, and got lost, whilst Smith was still fast asleep; I wandered for some time through those dreary regions, till finding I could not make my way back to my own apartment, concluded to lay myself down to rest.



I had not yet closed my eyes, when again surprised by the shrill and beautiful voice of Magdelama, who came with lighted torches, encircled with a numerous crowd of her young maids, who made the greatest of friendship towards me, and seemed to rejoice very much at their good fortune, in getting to me before I was devoured by the voracious animals of prey, which so often frequented those extensive caverns. Rise up, she says, my dear stranger, and come along with me, and I will be your protection through these my pleasant possessions the remnant of the night. She took hold of my arm and brought me to her own apartment; and as I was without clothes, just as I jumped out of bed, she soon had me dressed in a suit of an Indian king's regimentals, who was killed in the Indian war by her brother, who had been chief king over the different tribes of the southern united provinces in America. After she had pressed me to partake of a few glasses of wine, in order to animate my spirits, the better to undergo an approaching scene to which she contemplated to take me, and therefore invited me to walk with her in company with twenty-eight young maids her attendants, in order she said to show me a curiosity. We then took our departure, from her dwelling to the place appointed, arm and arm; I being dressed in a suit of Indian king's regimentals, embroidered with the finest of gold lace, occasioned Magdelama much more delighted with my appearance than ever. Now, said she, you look just like the man I wish to make of you; for my husband was chief king of these tribes, who was



killed in a war battle the first year of his reign. We proceeded on through the different caverns, in number she told me was thirty-six, and their length from the entrance was six miles. We arrived at length at an Indian town, three miles distance from where we started; it being then day-break of a beautiful morning; there we beheld two tribes of Indians, one at war against the other. Magdelama introduced me to the chief warrior of her own tribe, a near relative of her own; I was then immediately taken into his house, in company of Magdelama and her attendants, under a strong guard, the better to keep us from danger; at the same time we could plainly discover, through holes in the house for the purpose, how the battle went on. There I could behold the men falling by scores. For during some time, the miseries of that day to me seemed most alarming; as quick as one of those Indians fell by a stroke of the enemy, several of them immediately jumped upon him, out knife, and off with his scalp; and many scalps were taken off, when the Indians were yet living. A scalp is the skin cut off the top of the head, hair and all, as a token of victory.

This battle being decided in favour of the tribe to which Magdelama was one of the chief females, we took our departure back to the cavern which we started from. Arriving there, I found my friend Smith in a state of deep melancholy, thinking that I had perhaps went out on a call of nature, and unfortunately got devoured alive by the howling animals of the forests. But a sight of me was fresh life to him. After I had related this singular adventure



to him, he immediately conceived the reason why Magdelama took me to see the Indian battle; which was, he said, to try my courage, and know by my being terrified or unmoved by the scene of war, whether or no she could easily compel me to her lascivious desires. Mr. Smith to be sure was a man of extensive wisdom and experience, but amidst these enchanting delusions in which we were encircled, he began to get much more in dread of our dangerous situation than I was myself, as I was getting more callous and hardened to the intrigues of the deceitful world, the longer I remained in that place of bondage. For my own part I generally possess a cheerful mind, which I find to be more than half the victory in surmounting the many difficulties to which I have been exposed. O! said Smith one day during our captivity, what a sweet privilege liberty is, it has a delightful and pleasing sound; it has formerly stimulated the breasts of our fore-fathers to wade through oceans of blood, fearless of death in all her ghastly forms. That is a true observation said I, Mr. Smith, but as the councils of a commonwealth are generally more public than those of a monarchy, so generally they are more fair than honest.

The conviction of being free, makes the people easy in a republic, even where they are more burdened than under an arbitrary monarch. There was another curious circumstance occurred shortly after the above: being one night about half past eleven o'clock most agreeably surprised by the sound of music, I being remarkably fond of such from my



earliest childhood, raised up my head from my pillow the better to hear it; the sound of the music increased, which so much charmed and raised my imaginations, that I was immediately prompted to leap out of bed, and go to where I thought that beautiful sound appeared to come from.

Just as I was getting out of bed, Smith interrupted me with the following expression: Why, says he, boy are you distracted, or do you mean to rush in the midst of destruction at once; this sound of music I heard myself, but did not wish to wake you, least you should make such an attempt as you are now doing. I can said he, perhaps satisfy you respecting this music at such a late hour of the night. I have oft times heard previous to this, that in these extensive caverns, there assembles four times a year a numerous band of Indian kings, chief warriors with their wives and families, in order to rejoice for the many victories they have gained in battle over their enemies; many of them are skilled in the magic arts, and at their dances perform many surprising feats, therefore I beg you not to go near them, least that in their fury in time of their sham-battles, they should put you to instant death. Forgive me, said I, Mr. Smith for this freedom, as my curiosity is so great, I must gratify it to go and see them. And as I am hardened and callous from this state of captivity, as well as other diversified scenes through life. I think with all their witchcraft, wisdom, and other wretched acquirements, if they are greater devils than I have become one myself, they are pretty well accomplished indeed. I immedi-



ately set out for their banquet: Smith took care to keep in sight of me, until I arrived at the place of merriment, where I with joy inexpressible, beheld Magdelama amongst the chief females, dressed up in the greatest style imaginable. Previous to my arrival there, she had informed one of the Indian queens of my being much taken in love with her chief waiting maid, whose name was Phillima, and did not pay that attention to her which was necessary, besides I had attempted lately to make my escape. This news too soon spread amongst the Indian chiefs, who, for undervaluing Magdelama their friend, and also the widow of one of their deceased kings, had made a determination of putting me to the most excruciating death. I was then, as soon as apprehended on the ground, seized and confined, with my hands tied behind my back; and a large fire, as big as a small house, was directly made of wood, for the purpose of consuming me.

At this shocking sight, Magdelama, moved with compassion, fell down on her knees to beg the king's pardon for me, which was granted upon the following conditions: After this fire was kindled, several of the Indian chiefs took me to see the preparation they had made for my punishment; and when they had got me to this fire which was blazing like thunder, most terrifying indeed; besides, there was several men employed in splitting the fattest of light wood very fine, in order to stick my body full of it, and then set it on fire, in order as they generally do, to keep a man in torture, and as long as possible a dying. They stuck one of the splinters of this wood



into the skin of my back after having stripped off my clothes, and set it on fire; but as soon as the fire came too near my skin, being in a state of frenzy, I quickly pulled out the splinter all on fire, and throwed it with all the bitterness of my indignation amongst the Indians, which set several of their hair on fire, and was the occasion of a hearty laugh amongst the kings and chief warriors; some of them concluded that I disregarded fire, or even the thoughts of impending death; no, no, said others, he is as much afraid of death as any man; well, says others, let us try how he can stand the heat of this large fire that is blazing so strong for his purpose. They took me to the fire and pushed me almost into it, but finding it rather too hot, and being in a state of madness, not regarding my life, nor did I at that period seem to care for death, in all her dreadful and ghastly forms. As they had untied my hands some time previous to that, I took hold of two fiery sticks of wood, and ran violently in amongst the thickest crowd of them and exercised my best abilities with those fiery billets, which made them soon scatter, running and laughing, almost ready to die, and I wished they had, the thieves, with the fun they experienced from my rude conduct. Now the Indians are a people that delight in noble actions; and funny mad behaviour pleases them to the heart. After these few capers, they took me to where their women were, and introduced me to them; amongst the rest was Magdelama, whose countenance seemed much more pleasing to me than before; she also came forward to me and



kindly shook hands. Now said their chief king, agreeable to Magdelama's desire, would you rather renounce all other women and have her in marriage, than to stand your death like the son of a king, or officer, in that flaming fire which you saw built for the purpose. If this is the honour said I you confer upon officers, I would of the two choose to be a private soldier; and as to joining in wedlock with Magdelama, I rejoice at having that favourable opportunity. After assuring this multitude, as well as Magdelama, that there was no other woman on this spacious earth I admired but her, the king of that tribe told me that I had but one thing more to perform, if I executed that important request agreeable to the satisfaction of him and the rest of the chiefs present, I should be immediately pronounced a free man, both from them and the captivity of Magdelama. Smith had secreted himself all this time of my persecution, lest he should share the same fate which was intended for me. The multitude being in a state of suspense to hear me perform the king's request, he stepped to me himself, and said, now you are to deliver in presence of this assembly a speech, in order to dictate to kings and rulers, how wisely to govern their passions, as well as their subjects; so mount this stage for the purpose and proceed.

*The Author's speech to the Indian kings and rulers.*

O you great, mighty kings and rulers, permit me, though unworthy as well as incapable, to make an expression for your edification as near agreeable to



the king's request, as my weak mind is capable of dictating me.

In the first place, a good king makes good subjects. That king that can govern his own passions, is capable of subduing many nations. If the authority of a king over his subjects be absolute, the authority of the law by which he governs, should be absolute over him; his power to do good should be unlimited, but the same time he ought to be restrained from doing evil. As the law have put the people into his hands as the most valuable deposit, upon condition that he should treat them as his children; for it is the intent of the law, that the wisdom and equity of one man shall be the happiness of many, and not that the wretchedness and slavery of many should gratify the luxury and pride of one. A king ought to possess nothing more than the subject. But in proportion as more is necessary to alleviate the fatigue of his station, and impress upon the minds of the people a reverence of that authority by which the laws are executed. In every other respect, a king should indulge himself less, as well in ease as in pleasure, and be less disposed to the pomp and pride of life than any other man: he ought not to be distinguished from the rest of mankind by the greatness of his wealth, or the variety of his enjoyments, but by superior wisdom, more heroic virtue, and more splendid glory. Abroad, noble kings, you should be defending your country by commanding your armies, and at home the judge of your people; distributing justice among them, improving their morals, and increasing their felicity.



It is not for yourselves that the most high has entrusted you with royalty; you are exalted above individuals, only that you may be the servant of the public; to the public you owe all your time, the public should engage all the king's attention, and his love should have no object but the public, for he deserves dignity only in proportion as he gives up private enjoyments for the public good. The children of a king should not succeed to his throne, but upon conditions that they should govern by these maxims; he should love his people more than his family, and by this wise institution he insures power and happiness to his kingdom. This mode of government I highly recommend to all kings and rulers; thus a peaceful legislator, when dictated by a wise king, will in time eclipse the glory of mighty conquerors, who too often sacrifice nations to their own vanity. The power of such tyrants as these, after a few years will be laid in the cold recesses of the grave, and their works will follow them. But the justice of a wise king, at that great day appointed, will place him in a more beautiful situation than the former; it will place him at the right hand of the throne of the majesty in the heavens, there to remain in a state of perfect blessedness, whilst everlasting ages and worlds roll round.

The moment I pronounced the last word of the above oration, the colors, which during my speech was held over my head by an ensign, was swayed downwards as a signification of my conclusion, and honour to the assembly. Then there was the great-



est acclamations of gratification among the whole assembly, distinguished by shouts, yells, throwing up their hats, caps and bonnets, together with dancing the Indian dance round a large fire, the same which they had prepared for me; all joined hands, and myself in the midst. This mad frolic being over, the chief king, whose name was Pazorro, the great emperor of all the tribes in the southern united provinces of America, pronounced me freed from death, or any other punishment whatever, either by Magdelama, or her commands; and so gave me from under his hand a written discharge, which I have in my possession till this present period, of which the following is a copy:—

These are to certify to all persons whom it may concern, that the bearer hereof has been regularly reprieved from death, for a gross insult and deception of Magdelama, governess of the Haunted Caverns of Granada. And by these presents he is defended against all persons who might give themselves the trouble of apprehending him for the same.

We also certify that we are completely convinced of his innocence, by many meritorious acts of generosity, piety, eloquence, and noble acts, for which he is worthy of honour and respect of all among whom he may sojourn, or should have the pleasure of perusing the within. Given from under our hands and seals, this 21st day of April, 1795.

Testas.

Lara Futanga, chief king. Leoma Pazorro chief king. Theloma Rennorora, king. Magdelama, governess of the Caverns.



*A remarkable dream of the author's mother, on the  
very night previous to his trial among the Indians.*

Return, return unhappy spouse,  
Nor seek the fatal place,  
Where thoughtless crowds expecting stand,  
To see your child's disgrace.

Methinks I see the judges sit,  
The council all attend,  
My Jemmy trembling at the bar,  
Bereft of every friend.

How shall a mother's eye sustain  
The dreadful sight to see,  
Return dear wife the husband cries,  
And leave the task to me.

Persuade me not my faithful love,  
But help me now to go,  
And see my lovely Jemmy's face,  
And share in all his wo.

I'll kneel before his judges' feet,  
And prayers and tears employ,  
For pity take my wretched life,  
But spare my darling boy.

When trembling prostrate in the dust,  
My heart-felt sorrows flow,  
O, sure the hardest heart will melt  
To see a mother's wo.

How did I watch his infant years,  
Through fond affection blind,  
And hoped the comfort of my age,  
In Jemmy's love to find.



Of when he joined the youthful train,  
 And roved the groves all round,  
 Full many a wistful look I sent,  
 And thought he staid too long.

And when at length I saw my boy  
 Come bounding o'er the plain,  
 The sprightliest of all the throng,  
 The foremost of the train.

How had I gazed with fond delight,  
 His harmless joy to see,  
 When home he brought a bunch of flowers,  
 And chose the best for me.

Why did you go through Indian tribes,  
 Where fraud and cunning dwell,  
 Alas the heart that knows no guile,  
 Should choose the humble cell.

So might I still with eager joy,  
 Expect my child's return;  
 And not as now, his cruel fate,  
 In bitter sorrow mourn.

Last night when all was dark and still,  
 O wonderous tale to tell!  
 I dream'd I heard a mournful sound—  
 I thought 'twas Jemmy's bell.

And oft amidst the dreary gloom,  
 I heard a dismal groan,  
 I thought I felt a clay cold hand,  
 Which fondly press'd my own.

The sound I heard was much confused,  
 Of all the rustic train,  
 And Jemmy's fainting, trembling voice,  
 For pity begg'd in vain.



Methought I saw the fatal fire,  
 And saw him dragg'd along,  
 I saw him seiz'd—I spoke no more,  
 For anguish stopp'd my tongue.

Her faithful partner gently strove  
 Her sinking heart to cheer,  
 Yet while his lips of comfort spoke,  
 He could not hide a tear.

But now the voice of joy or wo,  
 To her alike were vain,  
 Her thoughts still dwelt on Jemmy's fate,  
 Her lips on Jemmy's name.

Thus on the mournful pair advanced,  
 And reach'd the fatal place,  
 Where thoughtless crowds were gather'd round,  
 To see their child's disgrace.

Such crowds as run with idle gaze,  
 Alike to every show,  
 Nor heed a wretched mother's tears,  
 Nor feel a father's wo.

Sudden she stopp'd—for now in view  
 The crowded hall appear'd—  
 Chill horror seized her stiffen'd frame,  
 Her voice no more was heard.

She could not move, nor could she weep,  
 Her hands were clasp'd on high;  
 And all her soul in eager gaze,  
 Seemed starting from her eye.

For her the husband trembled now,  
 With tender anxious fear;  
 O woman turn and speak to me,  
 Alas she could not hear.



Still fix'd she stood in silent wo,  
 Still gazed on the door;  
 When lo a murmuring through the crowd,  
 Proclaimed the trial o'er.

At once the blood forsook her cheek,  
 Her feeble spirits fled,  
 When Jemmy flew into her arms,  
 And rais'd her drooping head.

The well known voice recall'd her soul,  
 She clasp'd him to her breast,—  
 O joy too vast for words to tell,  
 Let fancy paint the rest.

The author has lately been home to the old countries on family affairs, and during the time that his old mother of near eighty years of age, was telling him her remarkable dream, he was penning it down; and had clearly ascertained from the date of her dream, that his mother dreamed it the night previous to his trial. So that the reader may judge whether or not dreams are sent for warnings.



*Manners and customs of the Indians in South America, and other parts of the Continent.*

THE native South American Indians are tall and stout in their limbs, beyond the proportions of most other nations, particularly in the Creek nation. I have seen men of six feet nine inches, and well proportioned to the same. Many of them are well featured and handsome; and many of the Indian women as beautiful almost as drawn pictures. The



bodies of the men kind are strong, but more fitted to endure much hardships, than to continue long at any servile work which they cannot support. Their bodies and head are flatish, their features are even and regular, but their countenance fierce; their hair long and black, stout, hearty, but have no beards. The colour of their skin is a reddish brown, which most of them admire and take proper methods to improve.

The Europeans on their first arrival in America, found the Indians quite naked, except those parts which is common for the most uncivilized people to conceal. Since that time, they have generally a coarse blanket to cover them, which they buy from their neighbours. The whole tenor of their lives is of a piece: They are remarkably hardy and durable; cold cannot affect them, being inured to hardships from their earliest childhood. When an Indian is first born, he is tied fast to a board about four feet long and fourteen inches broad, in order to make him straight; and kept on that board until he is two months old, and whenever his mother wishes to remove the child from one place to another, she just takes hold of the board and draws it along, or pitches it child and all carelessly to the spot she wishes it.

Indians in time past, seldom wore any thing but what is called a British cloth, just what was sufficient to secrete those valuable instruments of nature from the eye of a curious beholder. When a white man will ask an Indian how he can bear the cold so well, his answer is, how can your face bear the cold,



in like manner could your whole body bear it, if you never had wore clothes. The mode of life the Indians pursue, is hunting and war; for agriculture is left to their women. For at the time of their marriage, in token of their due maintainance of each other, the Indian presents his new married wife with the leg of a Deer, and his wife presents him with an ear of Indian corn, signifying that he is bound by the ties of matrimony to find their family in flesh meat, and she to find them in Indian corn for bread, from her industry in the field. Before the Europeans discovered them, they knew not the use of spirituous liquors; but now, the acquirement of these is the principal object of their pursuit.

The Indians are grave, even to sadness, in their deportment upon any serious occasion; observant of those in company, respectful to the old, and of a temper cool and deliberate. They are never in haste to speak before they have thought well of the matter, and are sure the person who spoke before them, has finished all he has to say. They have therefore, the greatest contempt for the vivacity of the Europeans, who interrupt each other, and frequently speak all together. In their public councils and assemblies, every man speaks in his turn, according as his years, his wisdom, or his services to his country, have ranked him. Not a word, not a whisper, not a murmur is heard from the rest while he speaks, no indecent condemnation, no ill-timed applause. The younger class attend for their instruction, and here they learn the history of their



nation; here they are inflamed with the songs of those who celebrate the warlike actions of their ancestors; and here they are taught what are the interests of their country, and how to pursue them.

Though the American Indian is naturally humane and hospitable; yet, to the enemies of his country, or to those who have privately offended him, he is implacable. He conceals his resentments, he appears reconciled, till, by some treachery or surprise, he has an opportunity of executing an horrible revenge. No length of time is sufficient to allay his resentment, no distance of place great enough to protect the object; he crosses the steepest mountains, he pierces the most impervious forests, and traverses the most hideous bogs and deserts for some hundreds of miles, bearing the inclemency of the seasons, the fatigue of the expedition, the extremes of hunger and thirst, with patience and cheerfulness, in hopes of surprising his enemy, on whom he exercises the most shocking barbarities.

The Americans have scarce any temples; for, as they live by hunting, inhabit mean cottages, and are given to change their habitation, they are seldom very religious. Some appear to have little ideas of God; others entertain better notions, and hold the existence of the Supreme Being, eternal and incorruptible, who has power over all. Satisfied with owning this, which is traditionary among them, they pay him no sort of worship.

The darling passion of the Americans is liberty, and that in its fullest extent; to liberty the native Indians sacrifice every thing. This is what makes



a life of uncertainty and want supportable to them, and their education is directed in such a manner as to cherish this disposition to the utmost. They are indulged in all manner of liberty; they are never upon any account, chastised with blows, and very rarely even chidden.

Though some tribes are found in America with a king at their head, yet his power is rather persuasive than coercive, and he is revered as a father, more than feared as a monarch. He has no guards, no prisons, no officers of justice. In some tribes there are a kind of nobility, who, when they come to years of discretion, are entitled to a place and vote in the councils of the nation. But among the five nations, or Iroquois, the most celebrated commonwealth of North America, and in some other nations, there is no other qualification absolutely necessary for the head men, but age, with ability and experience in their affairs.

Whenever any affair of consequence is to be transacted they appoint a feast, of which almost the whole nation partakes. There are smaller feasts on matters of less general concern, to which none are invited but those who are engaged in that particular business. At these feasts it is against all rule to leave any thing; so that, if they cannot eat all, what remains is thrown into the fire. They look upon fire as a thing sacred, and in all probability their feasts were anciently sacrifices. Before the entertainment is ready, the principal person begins a song, the subject of which is the fabulous or real history of their nation, the remarkable events which



have happened, and whatever matters may conduce to their honour or instruction. The others sing in their turn, they have dances too, with which they accompany their songs, chiefly of a martial kind; and no solemnity or public business is carried on without such songs and dances.

The charge of the internal peace and order is likewise committed to the same council of the elders, which regulates whatever regards the external policy of the state. Their suits are few and quickly decided, having neither property nor art enough to render them perplexed or tedious.

The loss of any of their people, whether by war or a natural death, is lamented by the whole town he belongs to. In such circumstances no business is taken in hand, however important, nor any rejoicings permitted, however interesting the occasion, until all the pious ceremonies due to the dead are performed, which are always discharged with the greatest solemnity. The dead body is washed, anointed and painted, so as in some measure to abate the horrors of death. Then the women lament the loss with the most bitter cries, and the most hideous howlings, intermixed with songs, which celebrate the great actions of the deceased, and those of his ancestors. The men mourn in a less extravagant manner. The whole village attends the body to the grave, which is then interred, habited in the most sumptuous ornament:—With the body of the deceased are placed his bow and arrows, with what he valued most in his life, and



provisions for the long journey he is to take. Feasting attends this, as it does every solemnity.

No instances of regard to their deceased friends are so striking as what they call the feast of the dead, or the feast of souls. The day of this ceremony is appointed in the council of their chiefs, who give orders for every thing that may enable them to celebrate it with pomp and magnificence. The neighbouring people are invited to partake of the feast, and to be witnesses of the solemnity.—At this time, all who have died since the last solemn feast of that kind, are taken out of their graves; those who have been interred at the greatest distance from the villages are diligently sought after, and brought to this great rendezvous of sepulchral relicts.

The opening of these tombs displays one of the most striking scenes that can be conceived. This humiliating portrait of human misery, exhibited in so many images of death, wherein a thousand various shapes of horror are depicted, according to the different ravages that time has made, forms altogether a scene too indelicate to be here described. I know not which ought to affect us most, the horror of so striking a sight, or the tender piety and affection of those poor people towards their departed friends.

This strange festival is the most magnificent and solemn of any they have, not only on account of the great concourse of natives and strangers, and of the pompous re-interment they give to the dead, whom they dress in the finest skins they can get,



after having exposed them some time in this pomp, but for the games of all kinds which they celebrate upon the occasion, in the spirit of those which the ancient Geeeks and Romans celebrated upon similar occasions. In this manner do they endeavour to soothe the calamities of this life, by the honours they pay to the dead. Though among these savage nations this custom is impressed with strong marks of the ferocity of their nature; yet an honour to the dead, a tender feeling of their absence, and a revival of their memory, are some of the most excellent means of softening our rugged nature into humanity.

Though the women in America have generally the laborious part of economy upon themselves, yet they are far from being the slaves they appear, and are not at all subject to the great subordination, in which they are placed in countries where they seem to be more respected. On the contrary, they hold their councils, and have their share in all deliberations that concern the state; nor are they found inferior to the part they act. Polygamy is practised by some nations, but it is not general.—In most places they content themselves with one wife; but a divorce is admitted, and for the same causes that it was allowed among the Jews, Greeks and Romans. No nation of the Americans is without a regular marriage, in which there are many ceremonies. Incontinent before marriage, after wedlock the chastity of their women is remarkable. The punishment of the adulteress, as well as that of the adulterer, is in the hands of the husband himself,



and it is often severe, being inflicted by him who is at once the party and the judge. Their marriages are not fruitful, seldom producing above two or three children; and from hence we may derive the principal cause of the depopulation of America.

The manner of their preparing for war and their mode of carrying it on, seem peculiar to themselves. Almost the sole occupation of the American Indian is war or such an exercise as qualifies him for it. His whole glory consists in this, and no man is at all considered until he has increased the strength of his country with a captive, or adorned his hat with the scalp of one of his enemies. When the Indians resolve upon war, they do not always declare what nation it is they are determined to attack, that the enemy upon whom they really intend to fall, may be off their guard: and they sometimes even let whole years pass over without committing any act of hostility, that the vigilance of all may be unbent by the long continuance of the watch, and the uncertainty of the danger.

In the mean time, they are not idle at home.—The principal captain summonses the youths of the town to which he belongs, the war kettle is set on the fire, the war songs and dances commence, the hatchet is sent to the villages and allies of the same nation, and the most hideous howlings continue, without intermission, day and night, over the whole tract of country. The women add their cries to those of the men, lamenting those whom they have either lost in war or by natural death,



and demanding their places to be supplied by their enemies.

The fury of the nation being thus raised to the greatest height, and all longing to imbrue their hands in blood, the war captain prepares the feast, which consists of dog's flesh. All that partake of this feast receive little billets, which are so many engagements they take to be faithful to each other, and obedient to their commander. None are forced to the war, but, when they have accepted this billet, they are looked upon as enlisted, and it is then death to recede. All the warriors in this assembly have their faces blackened with charcoal, intermixed with ashes and streaks of vermillion, which give them a most horrid appearance. Their hair is dressed up in an odd manner, with feathers of various kinds.

In this assembly, which is preparatory to their military expedition, the chief begins the war song, which having continued for some time, he raises his voice to the highest pitch, and turning off suddenly in a sort of prayer, he addresses himself to the God of war, whom they call Areskoni. "I invoke thee, (says he) to be favourable to my enterprize! I invoke thy care to me and my family! I invoke ye likewise, all ye spirits and demons good and evil! all ye that are in the skies, or on the earth, or under the earth, to pour destruction on our enemies, and to return me and my companions safely to my country!" All the warriors join him in his prayer with shouts and acclamations. The captain renews his song, strikes his club against the stakes



of the cottage, and begins the war dance, accompanied with the shouts of all his companions, which continue as long as he dances.

On the day appointed for their departure they take leave of their friends, and change their clothes or what moveables they have, in token of friendship. Their wives and female relations go out before them and attend at some distance from the town. The warriors march out all dressed in their finest apparel and most showy ornaments, regularly one after another, for they never march in rank. Their chief walks slowly on before them, singing the death song, while the rest preserve the most profound silence. When they come up to the women, they deliver to them all their finery, put on their worst clothes, and then proceed as their commander directs.

The Indians seldom engage in a war upon motives common to Europe; they have no other end but the glory of victory, or the benefit of their slaves, which it enables them to add to their nation, or sacrifice to their brutal fury; and it is very seldom, that they take any pains to give their wars even the colour of justice. They sometimes fall on one nation and sometimes on another, and surprize some of their hunters, whom they scalp and bring home as prisoners. Their senators wink at this or rather encourage it, as it tends to keep up the martial spirit of the people, inures them to watchfulness and hardships, and gives them an early taste for blood. The qualities of an Indian war are vigilance and attention, and to give and avoid



a surprise; and patience and strength to endure the intolerable fatigues and hardships which always attend it.

They often enter a village, while the strength of the nation is employed in hunting, and massacre all the helpless old men, women and children, or make prisoners of as many as they can manage, or have strength enough to be useful to their nation. They often cut off small parties of men in their huntings; but when they discover an army of their enemies, their way is to throw themselves flat on their faces among the withered leaves, the colour of which their bodies are painted exactly to resemble. They generally let a part pass unmolested, and then, rising a little, they take aim, being excellent marksmen, and setting up a tremendous shout, which they call the war-cry, they pour a stream of musket bullets on the enemy, having long since laid aside the use of arrows. The party attacked returns the same cry. Every man in haste retires behind a tree, returns the fire of the adverse party, as soon as they arise from the ground to give the second discharge.

Having fought some time in this manner, the party which thinks it has the advantage rushes out of its cover, with small axes in their hands, which they dart with great address and dexterity. They redouble their cry, intimidate their enemies with menaces, and encourage each other with a boastful display of their own brave actions. Thus having come hand to hand, the contest is soon decided, and the conquerors satiate their savage fury with



the most shocking insults and barbarities to the dead, biting their flesh, tearing their scalps from their heads, and wallowing in their blood, like the wild beasts of the forest.

The fate of their prisoners is indeed miserable. During the greater part of their journey homewards they suffer no injury; but when they arrive at the territories of the conquering state, or at those of their allies, the people from every village meet them, and think they show their attachment to their friends by the barbarous treatment of the unhappy victims, who on their arrival at their destined station, generally bring with them marks of the most cruel and merciless treatment.

The conquerors enter the town in triumph; the war captain waits upon the head men, and in a low voice gives them a circumstantial account of every particular of the expedition, of the damages the enemy have suffered and his own loss in it. This being done the public orator relates the whole to the people. Before they yield to the joy which the victory occasions, they lament the friends they have lost in the pursuit of it. The parties most nearly concerned are apparently afflicted with a deep and real sorrow; but by one of those strange turns of the human mind, fashioned to any thing by custom, as if they were disciplined in their grief, upon the signal for rejoicing, in a moment the tears are wiped from their eyes, and they rush into an extravagance and phrenzy of joy for their victory. All this time the fate of the prisoners remains undeci-



ded, until the old men meet and determine concerning their distribution.

It is usual to offer a slave to each house that has lost a friend, giving the preference according to the greatness of the loss. The person who has taken the captive attends him to the door of the party's cottage, where he delivers him, and with him gives a belt of wampum, to show that he has fulfilled the purpose of the expedition, in supplying the loss of a citizen. They for some time view the present that is made them, and according as they think him or her, for the sex matters not, proper or improper for the business of the family, or as they take a capricious liking or displeasure to the countenance of the victim, or in proportion to their natural barbarity, or their resentment for their losses, they decide whether they will receive him into the family, or sentence him to death. If they be received into the family, happy is their lot, as they are then accepted into the place of the father, son or husband that is lost; and they have no other mark of their captivity, but that of not being suffered to return to their own country, to attempt which would be certain death. On the contrary, if they dislike the captive, they throw away the belt with indignation. Then it is no longer in the power of any one to save him, the nation is assembled as upon some great solemnity, a scaffold is raised, and the prisoner tied to the stake. He instantly begins his death song, and prepares for the ensuing scene of cruelty with most undaunted courage. On the other side, they prepare to put it to the utmost proof; with



every torment that the mind of man, ingenious in mischief, can devise.

It would be too shocking to the ear of our youthful reader to be told what inhuman tortures are inflicted on him, till at last, one of the chiefs, out of compassion, or weary with cruelty, generally puts an end to his life with a club or a dagger.—The body is then put into the kettle, and this barbarous employment is succeeded by a feast equally inhuman.

On this occasion, the women, forgetting the female nature, and transferring themselves into something worse than furies, act their parts, and even outdo the men in this scene of horror. The principal persons of the country sit round the stake smoking, and looking on without the least emotion. What is most extraordinary, the sufferer himself, in the little intervals of his torments, smokes also, appears unconcerned, and converses with his torturers about indifferent matters. Indeed, during the whole time of his execution there seems a contest between him and them, which shall exceed, they in inflicting the most horrid pains, or he in enduring them with a firmness and constancy almost above human. Not a groan, not a sigh, not a distortion of countenance, escapes him; he possesses his mind entirely in the midst of his torments; he recounts his own exploits, informs them what cruelties he had inflicted upon their countrymen, and threatens them with revenge that will attend his death; and though his reproaches exasperate them to a perfect state of madness, rage, and fury, he continues his



reproach, as even of their ignorance in the act of tormenting, pointing out himself more exquisite methods and more sensible parts of the body to be afflicted.

We do not dwell upon these circumstances of cruelty, which so much degrade human nature, out of choice; but as all who mention the customs of this people, have very particularly insisted upon their behaviour in this respect, and as it seems necessary, in order to give a true idea of their character; and serves to show in the strongest light, to what an inconceivable degree of barbarity the passions of men let loose will carry them. It will point out to us the advantages of a religion that teaches a compassion to our enemies, which is neither known nor practised in other religions; and it will make us more sensible than some appear to be, of the value of commerce, the benefits of a civilized life, and the delights derived from literature; which, if they have abated the force of some of the natural virtues by the luxuries which attend them, have taken out likewise the sting of our national vice, and softened the ferocity of our human race without enervating their courage. On the other hand the constancy of the sufferers in this trying scene, shows the wonderful powers of an early institution, and a ferocious thirst of glory, which makes men imitate and exceed what philosophy and even religion do not produce.



*The next beautiful and advantageous information, is a view of this very extensive and delightful country.*

## SOUTH AMERICA:

THIS division of America is an extensive peninsula, joined to the northern division by the Isthmus of Darien.

*Extent.* South America extends from about the 12th degree north, to the 54th degree of south latitude, without including the island of Terra del Fuego; making a length of about 4600 miles. Its extreme breadth is 3340 miles. From this extent, however, it diminishes both ways. Toward the southern extremity, it is very narrow.

*Climate.* The climate of South America has great varieties. In the southern parts, the inhabitants experience severe frosts, and almost perpetual winter. In the torrid zone, the mountains are so lofty, that the greatest inconvenience is the extreme cold of the mountains, and the moisture of the plains. The provinces contiguous to the equator, are subject to excessive heat, and to violent storms of rain, thunder, and lightning.

*Face of the Country.* The face of this country is overspread with mighty rivers, which flow through immense tracts of verdure and fertility. The sea coast is very little broken by gulfs or inlets, except such as are formed by the mouths of the rivers.



Though a country of spacious plains, its mountains are the most lofty on the globe; and volcanoes, which are numerous, are terrible and sublime.

*Mountains.* The most extensive chain of mountains is the Andes, which may be traced the whole length of South America, from north to south, 4600 miles. Chimborazo, the highest point in this chain, nearly under the equator, is 20,280 feet above the level of the sea, and 5000 feet higher than any mountain in the eastern hemisphere. Catapaxi, a volcano, 25 miles southeast of Quito, is 18,600 feet in height.

There are other remarkable chains of mountains beside the Andes, which run from west to east. The first is that of the Northern Coast, between nine and ten degrees of north latitude. The highest points of this chain, are 14 or 15,000 feet above the level of the sea. Several of its summits are covered with perpetual snow, and often pour down torrents of boiling sulphureous water.

The second range, or that of Parima, between three and seven degrees north latitude, is but little known. It stretches from the Andes east towards Popayan, forming numerous cataracts in the waters of the Orinoko.

The third chain, or that of Chiquitos, unites the Andes of Peru and Chili with the mountains of Brazil and Paraguay. The highest summits are between 15 and 20 degrees south latitude.

*Lakes.* South America has no inland seas, and but few lakes, and those are small compared with the immense lakes of North America. In Ama-



zonias and Brazil, there are none. Titicaca, in Peru, is the most important piece of water in South America; its figure is oval, its circumference about 240 miles, and its depth 70 or 80 fathoms.

*Rivers.* The river Amazon, called also the Maragnon, is the largest river in the world. A number of rivers which rush down with amazing impetuosity from the eastern declivity of the Andes, unite in a spacious plain, and form this noble river. In its progress, it runs 3300 miles from west to east across South America, and falls into the Atlantic ocean under the equator, by a mouth 150 miles broad. It is interspersed with a vast number of islands, which are too often overflowed to admit of culture. Some of the rivers, which fall into it, are very broad and deep. The chief of these, from the south and southwest, proceeding from the mouth westward, are Uragua, Paratina, Madeira, Purus, Yula, Yulacina, Ucayal. From the north and northwest, progressing from its mouth are Parima, Negro, Yupura, Issa, and Napo. It received the name of Amazon from Francis de Orillana, who was deputed in 1516, to explore the courses of this river. He penetrated to a considerable distance, and fought several nations of Indians, till his passage was opposed by a band of female warriors, armed with bows and arrows.

The second river in size is the Rio de la Plata, or River of Silver. It flows into the Atlantic ocean between Capes St. Anthony on the south, and St. Mary on the north, which are about 150 miles apart. At some distance above the mouth of this, as well



as of the Amazon river, the shore cannot be seen from the middle of the stream.

It is chiefly composed of two great streams, the Parana and Paraguay. The navigation is dangerous. The waters are of a petryfying quality, and are said to be a specific against rheums and defluctions.

The Oronoko, or Oronoque, including its windings, takes a course of 1380 miles, and preserves the freshness of its waters twelve leagues from the mouth of that vast and deep channel within which it was confined. It may be considered however as having many mouths, formed by the islands that lie before its opening towards the ocean. This river is remarkable for its regular rising and falling once a year. It begins to swell in April, continues rising for five months, and, during the sixth, remains at its greatest height. From October it begins gradually to subside till March throughout the whole of which it remains in a fixed state of its greatest diminution. These alternate changes are regular and invariable.

The other rivers of South America, belong more to particular districts, in the description of which they will be noticed.

*Botany, Zoology, and Mineralogy.* The plants and animals of South America, exhibit the same generic and specific differences from those in the old world, that were mentioned in the account of the northern portion of this continent, but are still more numerous and luxuriant in growth, in consequence of the greater warmth of the climate. In a



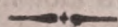
general view, it may be remarked that there exists in South America several animals which bear a similarity to kinds in the old world, but are inferior in size. Thus, the camel has a representative in the lama; the hippopotamus in the tapiir; the lion in the puma, or cougar; the leopard, in the jaguar. It is affirmed, however, that the South American tiger is as large and formidable as any beast of prey whatever. Monkeys are extremely numerous and various in the American forests, and there is a great variety of the squirrel, weasel, and opossum tribes. The splendour of the plumage of the birds is only rivalled by that of the birds of India. The serpents and alligators of its streams and marshes are of enormous magnitude. In metallic treasures, it is well known to surpass every region, that of Mexico perhaps excepted.

*Divisions.* The whole of this extensive country, except that occupied by the aborigines, was lately divided into colonial governments, belonging to Spain, Portugal, Holland, and France. The possessions of Holland and France have fallen to England. Some of the provinces of Spain have declared themselves independent, and others are in a state of revolt, and if Spain is subdued will certainly become independent. Portugal is removed to Brazil, and the province has become, and probably will continue, the principal country.

The Spanish territories are divided into vice-royalties, audiencies, provinces, governments, departments, and missions, or parishes, established among the Indians. The enumeration of them is



unnecessary. The grand divisions are three vice-royalties; that of New Granada, on the north; of Peru, including Chili, on the west; and of Buenos Ayres on the southeast.



## TERRA FIRMA, OR CASTILE DEL ORO.

THE northernmost province of South America is 1400 miles long, and 700 broad, situated between the equator and 12° N. lat. and between 15° E. and 7° W. lon. It is bounded on the E. by the Atlantic ocean, and Surinam; S. by Amazonia and Peru; W. by the Pacific ocean; and N. by the province of Veraguay, in North America, and the gulf of Mexico, here denominated the North sea.

*Name and Divisions.* It is called Terra Firma, because it was the first part of the continent discovered by Columbus. It is divided into the provinces of Terra Firma proper, or Darien, Carthagena, St. Martha, Venezuela, Cumana, Paria, New Granada and Popayan. The province of Darien is a narrow isthmus that joins North and South America, but is generally reckoned a part of the latter. It lies in the form of a crescent about the great bay of Panama, in the South sea, and is 400 miles long. The breadth is usually called 60 miles from north to south, but it is only 37 miles broad from Porto Bello to Panama, the two chief towns of the province.



*Bays and Rivers.* On the shores of the Pacific ocean are the bays of Panama and St. Michael. In the North sea are Porto Bello, Sino, and Guiana.

The principal rivers are the Darien, Chagre, Santa Maria, Conception and Oronoko. A particular description of the last has already been given.

*Climate, Soil and Productions.* The climate here is extremely hot and sultry during the whole year. From the month of May to the end of November, the season called winter by the inhabitants, is almost a continued succession of thunder, rain, and tempests; the clouds precipitating the rain with such impetuosity, that the low lands exhibit the appearance of an ocean. Great part of this country is of consequence almost continually flooded: and this, together with the excessive heat, so impregnates the air with vapours, that, in many provinces, it is very unwholesome. The soil is very different, the inland parts being extremely rich and fertile, and the coast sandy and barren. It is impossible to view, without admiration, the perpetual verdure of the woods, the luxuriance of the plains, and the towering height of the mountains. This country produces corn, sugar, tobacco, and fruits of all kinds.

The desert of Los Lamos, like the Sahara of Africa, is a prodigious tract of barrenness. For 2000 square leagues the level of the country does not differ five inches. No vegetation cheers this plain of sand; serpents and reptiles are the only inhabitants the traveller meets, for several days.

*Chief Towns.* CARTHAGENA is the principal sea-port town in Terra Firma. It is situated on the



Atlantic ocean, in north latitude  $10^{\circ} 31'$ . The bay on which it stands is seven miles wide, from north to south, and so smooth, that ships are no more agitated than on a river. The town and its suburbs are fortified in the modern style. The streets are straight, broad, and well paved. The houses are principally brick, and one story high. This city is the residence of the governor of the province of Carthagena; and of a bishop, whose spiritual jurisdiction extends over the whole province. There is here also a court of inquisition.

PANAMA is the capital of Terra Firma Proper, and is situated in north latitude  $8^{\circ} 45'$ , upon a capacious bay to which it gives its name. It is the great receptacle of the vast quantities of gold and silver, and other rich merchandize, from all parts of Peru and Chili; here they are lodged in store-houses, till the proper season arrives to transport them to Europe.

PORTO BELLO is situated close to the sea, on the declivity of a mountain which surrounds the whole harbor. The convenience and safety of this harbor is such, that Columbus, who first discovered it, gave it the name of Porto Bello, or the Fine Harbor, in north latitude,  $9^{\circ} 33'$ .

---

## PERU

LIES south of Terra Firma, and stretches along the shore of the Pacific ocean 1800 miles. It is bounded south by Chili, east by the Andes, a grand



natural limit, separating it from Amazonia. It lies between the equator and  $25^{\circ}$  south latitude, and spreads between  $15^{\circ}$  east, and  $6^{\circ}$  west longitude, though its breadth is in no place more than 500 miles.

*Divisions.* Peru is divided into three provinces, Quito, Lima, and Los Charcos.

*Rivers.* The Amazon rises among the Andes in Peru; but directs its course eastward, through Amazonia. Most of the rivers of the Andes run into the Atlantic, and can hardly be considered as belonging to Peru. There are no streams of consequence in the whole extent of Peru, that fall into the Pacific ocean.

*Climate.* According to the local disposition of the country, its high or low situation, we find in Peru all the varieties of temperature, from the extreme of heat to that of cold. The plains are temperate, the beaches and vallies are hot, and the mountains are covered with eternal snow and ice, while their bowels are flaming with fire. In some parts of Peru, it never rains, which defect is supplied by a gentle dew, which falls every night. Other parts are visited by dreadful tempests, thunder and lightning.

*Soil and Productions.* The inland parts are fertile, but the sea coast is barren.

This country produces fruits peculiar to the climate, and most of those in Europe. The culture of maize, of pimento, and cotton, which was found established there, has not been neglected; and that



of wheat, barley, cassava, potatoes, sugar, and of the olive and vine, is attended to.

*Animals.* The most remarkable animals in this country are the Peruvian sheep, called lamas and vicunnas. The lama, in several particulars, resembles the camel, as in the shape of the neck, head, and some other parts; but has no bunch, is much smaller, and is cloven footed. Its upper lip is cleft, like that of a hare, through which, when enraged, it spits a venomous juice, that inflames the part on which it falls. The wool, with which it is covered, is of different colors, but generally brown. These animals are generally docile, so that the Indians use them as beasts of burden. Their flesh is esteemed preferable to mutton. The vicunna resembles the lama in shape, but is much smaller, and its wool shorter and finer.

*Mines.* Nature never offered to the avidity of mankind, in any country on the globe, such rich mines as those of Peru. There are several gold mines, but those of silver are found all over the country. Those of Potosi are the most celebrated.

*Cities and Towns.* The city of LIMA is the capital of Peru, and of the whole Spanish empire in South America. It is seated in a delightful valley, two leagues from the sea; and is two miles long, and one broad. There are many magnificent edifices, particularly churches, in Lima. It is said to contain 54,000 inhabitants, who are immensely rich. All travellers speak with amazement of the decorations of gold, silver, and precious stones, which load the walls of the churches.



CUSCO, the ancient capital of the Peruvian empire, lies in a mountainous country, at a distance from the sea, and has long been on the decline, but is yet a very considerable place.

QUITO is next to Lima in population, if not superior to it. It is, like Cusco, an inland city.

---

## CHILI

EXTENDS along the Pacific ocean, from the southern boundary of Peru, in latitude 24 degrees south, to the 45th degree, being 1460 miles. Its breadth is about 234 miles. Chili has Paraguay and Tucuman east, and Patagonia south. It contains 378,000 square miles. To this must be added Cuyo, or Cujo, east of the Andes, 406 miles long and 402 broad, containing 163,000 square miles.

*Climate and Soil.* The climate of Chili is one of the most delightful in the world, being a medium between the intense heat of the torrid, and the piercing cold of the frigid zones. There are few places in this extensive country where the soil is not exuberantly rich. Chili is the most opulent kingdom in America.

*Animal and Vegetable Productions.* The horses and mules of Chili are in great esteem. Oxen, sheep and goats are fattened in the luxuriant pastures. The coasts abound with many excellent



fish; there are also vast numbers of whales and sea wolves.

The soil produces Indian and European corn, hemp, grapes, and all other fruits. The European fruit trees are obliged to be propped, to enable them to sustain the weight of the fruit. Orange trees are in bloom, and bear fruit throughout the year. The inhabitants press a kind of muscadine wine from the grapes, which far exceeds any thing of the kind made in Spain.

*Mines.* Mines of gold, silver, copper, tin, quick-silver, iron and lead, abound in this country. Vast quantities of gold are washed down from the mountains by brooks and torrents; the annual amount of which, when manufactured, is estimated at no less than 800,000 dollars.

*Population and Militia.* In 1773, the number of white inhabitants in Chili was reckoned at 80,000; negroes 140,000; besides Aborigines, more numerous than both. This number has since much increased. The militia, in 1792, amounted to 15,856 men. Those Indians who are not subject to the Spanish yoke, are very honest in their commercial transactions; they live in small huts. They are brave and warlike, and all the attempts of the Spaniards to subdue them have proved ineffectual.

*Towns.* ST. JAGO, the capital of Chili, and the seat of government, is 90 miles from the ocean, and 21 from the Andes. It is a large, handsome place. It contained, in 1776, 46,000 inhabitants, which have since increased, and trades largely with Buenos Ayres. The inhabitants are said to be remarkably



polite and hospitable. VALPARAISO, the port of St. Jago, is the most commercial city in Chili, lat. 33° 3' S. CONCEPTION is the second city in rank in Chili. It had 13,000 inhabitants in 1776.

VALDIVIA stands between the rivers Callacalles and Portero, where they fall into the South sea. It was built by the Spaniards in 1551, and is one of the largest cities in Chili.

The chief town in the province of Cuyo, is St. JOHN DE FRONTIERA.

---

## BUENOS AYRES

Is an inland country, bounded north by Amazonia, east by Brazil, south by Patagonia, and west by Chili and Peru. It extends from 12° to 37° S. lat. 1500 miles long, and 1000 broad. This extensive country has been called by various names. While attached to Peru, it was called the province of *Charcas*. It has since been called *Paraguay*, and *La Plata*, a name which it took from the river La Plata. At present the most common name is the viceroyalty of *Buenos Ayres*.

*Divisions.* It is divided into six provinces, Paraguay, Parana, Guira, Uragua, Tucuman, and Rio de la Plata.

*Rivers.* The country is watered by innumerable streams and rivers, which form the grand river La Plata, already described.



*Climate, Soil and Produce.* From the situation of this country, some parts of it are extremely hot, from the almost vertical influence of the rays of the sun; while other parts are pleasant and delightful. But the heat is in some measure abated by the gentle breezes, which generally begin about nine or ten o'clock in the morning, and continue the greatest part of the day. Some parts of the country are very mountainous; but in many others, are extensive and beautiful plains, where the soil is very rich, producing cotton, tobacco, and the valuable herb called Paraguay, together with a variety of fruits. There are also rich pastures, in which are bred such herds of cattle, that it is said the hides are the only part exported; while the flesh is left to be devoured by the beasts of the wilderness.

Paraguay sends annually into the kingdom of Peru, 1500 or 2000 mules. They travel over dreary deserts for the distance of 8 or 900 leagues. The province of Tucuman furnishes to Potosi, annually, 16 or 18,000 oxen, and 4 or 5000 horses, brought forth and reared upon its own territory.

*Chief Towns.* BUENOS AYRES is the capital of this country. Its situation, on the river La Plata, is healthy and pleasant, and the air temperate. It is regularly built. The number of inhabitants is about 30,000. One side of the town is defended by a fortress, with a garrison of six or seven hundred men. The town stands 180 miles from the sea. The access up the river is very difficult.

MONTE VIDEO stands on a bay of the same name, on the north side of the river La Plata, 20 leagues



above its mouth. It lies east of Buenos Ayres, and has its name from a mountain which overlooks it.

---

## GUIANA.

THE extensive country of GUIANA, or CARRIBIANA, stretches along the coast of the Atlantic ocean, from the mouth of the river Oronoko, to cape North, at the mouth of the Amazon river, between  $2^{\circ}$  and  $8^{\circ}$  of north latitude, and between  $12^{\circ}$  and  $25^{\circ}$  of east longitude.

*Divisions.* The western part of this country, called Surinam, belonged lately to the Dutch; the middle part to the French, whose capital was CAYENNE, and from which the whole territory received its name. The eastern parts were disputed by the French and Dutch, but the principal places in the country have lately been taken by, and are now in possession of the English.

Guiana is now divided into five districts, called ESSEQUEBO, DEMERARA, BERBISCH, SURINAM, and CAYENNE. The four first receive their names from rivers, which run through them, and the last from the city of Cayenne, in France.

*Climate and Seasons.* In the months of September, October and November, the climate is unhealthy, particularly to strangers. A hundred miles back from the sea is a hilly country, a pure, dry, wholesome air, where a fire sometimes would not



be disagreeable. The seasons were formerly divided into rainy and dry; but owing probably to the country being more cleared, and a free passage opened for the circulation of the air, this distinction has in a great measure ceased.

*Rivers.* A number of fine rivers pass through this country; the principal of which are Essequibo, Surinam, Demerara, Berbisch, and Canya. Essequibo is 21 miles wide at its mouth, and is more than 300 miles in length. Surinam is a beautiful river, three quarters of a mile wide, navigable for the largest vessels 12 miles, and for small vessels sixty or seventy miles further. Its banks, quite to the water's edge, are covered with evergreen and mangrove trees, which render the passage up this river very delightful. The Demerara is about two miles wide at its mouth, opposite to the fort. This river is navigable for vessels that can pass the bar, upwards of 100 miles.

*Soil and Productions.* The land along the sea coast is low and marshy, and subject to inundations during the rainy seasons. The soil is extremely rich, producing cotton, sugar, tobacco, Indian corn, ginger, indigo, rice, fruits, coffee, and other necessities of life. In the woods are many species of durable timber, and others highly valuable for ornamental purposes. This country has never experienced hurricanes, those dreadful scourges of the West Indies; and droughts, from the lowness of the land, it has not to fear; nor has the produce ever been destroyed by insects, or by the blast.



*Animals, Serpents, &c.* The woods abound with plenty of deer, hares, and rabbits, a kind of buffalo, and two species of wild hogs, one of which (the peccary) is remarkable for having something resembling the navel on its back.

The woods are infested with several species of tigers, but with no other ravenous or dangerous animals. The rivers are rendered dangerous by alligators. Scorpions and tarantulas are found here, of a large size and great venom, and other insects without number, some of them very dangerous and troublesome; the torporific eel, also, the touch of which, by means of the bare hand or any conductor, has the effect of a strong electric shock; serpents also, some of which are venomous, and others, as has been asserted by many credible persons, are from twenty-five to fifty feet long. In the woods are monkees, the sloth, and parrots in all their varieties; also, some birds of beautiful plumage, among others, the flamingo, but few or no singing birds.

*Chief Towns.* PARAMARIBO, situated in lat. 6° north, on Surinam river, four leagues from the sea, is the principal town in Surinam. It contains about 2000 whites, one half of whom are Jews, and 8000 slaves. The houses are principally of wood; some few have glass windows, but generally they have wooden shutters. The streets are spacious and straight, and planted on each side with orange and tamarind trees.

DEMARARA, at the mouth of the river of the same name, contains about 1800 white inhabitants.



CAYENNE is the principal settlement in the district of that name; it is on an island near the coast. It contains 1200 white inhabitants, exclusive of the garrison.

*Aboriginals.* The most considerable of the Indian nations of Guiana are the Carribbees, the Arvaques, the Yaos, and the Galibis. The Charaibes, or Carribbees, are enterprising, and so cautious of surprise, that they post out guards and centinels, with as much care and art as the Europeans. They are said to have been formerly cannibals. The Galibis are a pacific people; they manufacture hammocks and cotton beds, and are very ingenious. Such as are near the Europeans have learnt to handle fire-arms. The Charaibes, in the West Indies, are thought to derive their origin from these nations. The Charaibes of Guiana still fondly cherish the tradition of Sir Walter Raleigh's alliance; and to this day preserve the English colours, which he left with them at parting about 200 years ago.

---

## BRAZIL

COMPREHENDS all the Portuguese settlements in America, and is situated between the equator and 35 degrees south latitude. A line drawn from the mouth of the Amazon to the mouth of the La Plata, not far from the 15th degree of east longitude, would nearly correspond with its western



boundary, from which it extends eastward to about 40 degrees east. Its length, from north to south, is 2500 miles; its breadth 700. It is surrounded on all sides by the mouths of the rivers Amazon and La Plata and the Atlantic ocean, except the west, where it is bounded by Amazonia and the Spanish possessions.

*Divisions.* It has three grand divisions; the northern, which contains eight provinces or captainships; the middle, which has five; and the southern, which has three; in all sixteen provinces.

*Bays, Harbors and Rivers.* These are, the harbours of Pernambuco, All Saints, Rio Janeiro, the port of St. Vincent, the harbour of Gabriel, and the port of St. Salvador. There is a great number of noble streams, which unite with the rivers Amazon and La Plata, beside others, which fall into the Atlantic ocean.

*Climate, Soil and Productions.* The climate of Brazil is temperate and mild, when compared with that of Africa; owing chiefly to the refreshing wind, which blows continually from the sea. The air is not only cool but chilly, through the night; so that the natives kindle a fire every evening in their huts. As the rivers in this country annually overflow their banks, and leave a sort of slime upon the land, the soil, in many places, is amazingly rich. The vegetable productions are Indian corn, sugar canes, tobacco, indigo, hides, ipocaquanha, balsam, Brazil-wood; the last is a red colour, hard and dry, and is chiefly used in dying, but not the red of the best kind. Here is also the yellow fustic, of use in dying



yellow: and a beautiful kind of speckled wood, made use of in cabinet work. Here are five different sorts of palm trees, some curious ebony, and a great variety of cotton trees.

This country abounds in horned cattle, which are hunted for their hides only, 20,000 being sent annually into Europe. There is also a plenty of deer, hares, and other game. Among the wild beasts found here, are tigers, porcupines, janouveras, and a fierce animal, somewhat like the grayhound; monkeys, sloths, and the topirasson, a creature between a bull and an ass, but without horns, and entirely harmless; the flesh is very good, and has the flavour of beef. There is a numberless variety of fowl, wild and tame, in this country.

*Mines.* There are gold mines in many parts of this country, which have been wrought with considerable profit to the government. There are also many diamond mines, which have been discovered there; they are of all colours, and of almost every shade.

*Commerce.* The trade of Brazil is very great, and increases every year. They import 40,000 negroes annually. The exports from Brazil are diamonds, sugar, tobacco, hides, drugs, and medicines; and they receive in return, woollen goods of all kinds, linens, laces, silks, hats, lead, tin, pewter, copper, iron, beef and cheese. They also receive from Madeira a great quantity of wine, vinegar, and brandy; and from the Azores, 25,000*l.* worth of other liquors.



*Chief Towns.* ST. SALVADOR is the capital of Brazil. This city, which has a noble, spacious, and commodious harbour, is built on a high and steep rock, having the sea on one side, and a lake forming a crescent on the other. The situation makes it in a manner, impregnable by nature; and they have besides added to it very strong fortifications. It is populous, magnificent, and beyond comparison, the most gay and opulent city in all Brazil.

RIO JANEIRO is a rich and populous city, having many elegant churches and other buildings, situated within a large bay, and containing 200,000 inhabitants.

*Religion.* Roman Catholic.

*Natives.* The native Brazilians are about the size of the Europeans, but not so stout. They are subject to fewer distempers, and are long lived. They wear no clothing.

*History, &c.* The Portuguese discovered this country in the year 1500, but did not plant it till the year 1549, when they took possession of All Saints Bay, and built the city of St. Salvador, which is now the residence of the viceroy and archbishop. The Dutch invaded Brazil in 1623, and subdued the northern provinces; but the Portuguese agreed, 1661, to pay the Dutch 8 tons of gold to relinquish their interest in this country, which was accepted. The Portuguese remained in peaceable possession of all Brazil till about the end of 1762; when the Spanish government of Buenos Ayres, hearing of a war between Portugal and Spain, took, after a month's siege, the Portuguese frontier fortress,



called St. Sacramento; but, by the treaty of peace, it was restored. In 1807, the regent and royal family of Portugal emigrated to Brazil, where the Portuguese monarchy is now established.

---

## AMAZONIA.

THIS large country has never been perfectly explored by any European nation. It is supposed to be about 1400 miles long, and 900 broad; situated between the equator and 20 degrees south latitude. It is bounded north by Terra Firma and Guiana; east by Brazil; south by Paraguay; and west by Peru. It receives its name from the river Amazon, which, with its innumerable branches, waters the whole territory.

The air is cooler in this country than could be expected, considering it is situated in the middle of the torrid zone. This is partly owing to the heavy rains, which occasion the rivers to overflow their banks one half of the year, and partly to the cloudiness of the weather which obscures the sun a great part of the time he is above the horizon. During the rainy season, the country is subject to dreadful storms of thunder and lightning.

The soil is extremely fertile; producing coconuts, pine apples, bananas, plantains, and a great variety of tropical fruits; cedar, red wood, pak, ebony, log wood, sugar canes, cotton, potatoes, bal-



sam, honey, &c. The woods abound with tigers, wild boars, and game of various kinds; the rivers and lakes with fish. The crocodiles and water serpents render fishing a dangerous employment.

The natives of Amazonia are of a good stature, have handsome features, long black hair, and copper complexions. They spin and weave cotton cloth, and build their houses with wood and clay, and thatch them with reeds. Their arms are darts and javelins, bows and arrows, with targets of canes or fish skins. The several nations are governed by their chiefs, or caciques.

In reading the history of South America, it is pleasing to reflect that any part of it has escaped the ravages of European conquerors. Amazonia remains unsubdued; and the original inhabitants still enjoy their native freedom and independence.

---

## PATAGONIA.

THIS country is less known than any other part of South America. It lies south of Paraguay and Chili, and is bounded east by the Atlantic ocean; south it is divided from Terra del Fuego by the straits of Magellan, leading into the Pacific ocean, which limits it on the west.

The climate is much colder in this country than in the north, under the same parallels of latitude. It is almost impossible to say what the soil would pro-



duce, as it is not cultivated by the natives. The northern parts are covered with wood; but, towards the south, there is not a single tree large enough to be of use to mechanics. There are good pastures, which feed incredible numbers of horned cattle and horses.

There are some rivers and bays on the coast of this country, but they are little known.

Patagonia is inhabited by a variety of Indian tribes, among which are the Patagons, from whom the country takes its name: the Pampas and the Cossosres. They all live upon fish and game, and what the earth produces spontaneously. Their huts are thatched, and notwithstanding the rigour of the climate, they wear no other clothes than a mantle made of seal skin, or the skin of some beast, and that they throw off when they are in action. They are exceedingly hardy, brave and active, making use of their arms, which are bows and arrows headed with flints, with amazing dexterity. They always bury their dead on the eastern shores, looking towards the country of their fathers. They are supposed to have emigrated originally from Africa.

The Spaniards once built a fort upon the straits of Magellan and left a garrison in it, to prevent any other European nation from passing that way into the Pacific ocean; but most of the men perished by hunger, whence the place obtained the name of Port Famine; since that fatal event, no nation has attempted to plant colonies in Patagonia.



As to the religion or government of the Patagians, we have no certain information. Some have reported that they believe in invisible powers, both good and evil; and that they pay a tribute of gratitude to the one, and deprecate the wrath and vengeance of each other.

---

## SOUTH AMERICAN ISLANDS.

THE FALKLAND ISLES lie near the straits of Magellan, a little to the northeast of the utmost extremity of South America, between  $51^{\circ}$  and  $53^{\circ}$  S. lat. and between  $21^{\circ}$  and  $25^{\circ}$  of E. lon. They were discovered by Sir Richard Hawkins, in 1594; the chief of the two islands, he called HAWKINS' MAIDENLAND, in honour of queen Elizabeth. The soil of these islands is bad, and the shores are beat by perpetual storms. A British settlement was made here, of which they were soon after dispossessed by the Spaniards, 1770. The Spaniards now send criminals from their settlements on the continent, to these inhospitable shores.

TERRA DEL FUEGO, or Land of Fire, lies at the southern extremity of South America, is separated from the main on the north, by the straits of Magellan, and contains about 42,000 square miles. It consists of several islands, which receive this name on account of the vast fires and smoke which the first discoverers of them perceived. The island of



Staten Land lies on the east of the principal island. They are all barren and mountainous; but there have been found several sorts of trees and plants, and a variety of birds on the lower grounds and islands, that are sheltered by the hills. Here are found winter's bark, and a species of arbutus, which has a very well tasted red fruit, of the size of small cherries. Plenty of celery is found in some places, and the rocks are covered with very fine muscles. A species of duck is here met with; also geese and falcons. The natives are of a middle stature, with broad, flat faces, high cheeks, and flat noses. They are clothed in the skins of seals. The villages consist of a few miserable huts, in the form of a sugar loaf. The only food seems to be shell fish. Though these countries are only in latitude 56 degrees south, they are colder than Lapland in 70 degrees north.

GEORGIA. To the eastward of Terra del Fuego, in latitude 54 degrees south, and about 39° 30' east longitude, is a cluster of barren islands, called SOUTHERN GEORGIA. One of them is between 50 and 60 leagues in length. It is a dismal region, the land of ice. The vales are destitute of shrubs; coarse grass, burnet, and linchen are the only vegetables.

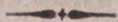
CHILOE, 150 miles long, and 21 broad, is separated from the coast of Chili by a narrow sea, forming a bay. It is between 42 and 44 degrees south latitude. The island produces all necessary provisions. Ambergris, in great quantities, is found on the coast. It has an indifferent sort, called Chocas. Castro, the chief town, stands between two brooks,



with a small castle, which commands the harbour. The houses are few and scattered.

JUAN FERNANDES is situated in the Pacific ocean, 390 leagues west of the continent, latitude 33 degrees south, longitude four degrees west. It is supposed to have been inhabited by a Spaniard, whose name it retains, although long since abandoned by him and his nation. It is more remarkable for having been the residence of Alexander Selkirk, a Scotchman, whose life and adventures furnished materials for the celebrated novel of Robinson Crusoe. The harbour is in Cumberland bay, on the north side of the island. It is represented, by those who have visited it, as an earthly paradise. On the southwest is a small isle, called Goat Island, and a rock, called Monkey Key, almost contiguous to it.

Massasuero, called by the Spaniards Juan Fernandes, lies 22 leagues west by south of the last mentioned Island; on the north side is good anchorage for shipping.



## HISTORY OF SOUTH AMERICA.

FOR the following information respecting a faithful history of South America, I am indebted to that celebrated Spanish author Don Vicent Pazos, a native of upper Peru: which is the familiar recollections of his childhood, or the result of his mature



knowledge, and of personal observation. As there are many scenes throughout the revolutionary war of this country, in which he has borne a part, either as an actor or sufferer, and which are therefore too deeply imprinted on his memory to be easily forgotten;—For the rest I rely upon authentic information and public documents.

It will be recollected that I have described Upper Peru in the general geography of South America, as comprehending seven provinces or intendencies; to wit, Potosi, Charcas or La Plata, Cochabamba, La Paz, Santa Cruz de la Sierra or Puno, Moxos and Chiquitos. I shall now proceed to present a geographical view of each of these provinces in their order, with a particular account of their climate, soil, productions, and other physical properties.

The region which extends from Jujui to Oruro, from  $17^{\circ} 52'$ , to  $22^{\circ}$ , south latitude, comprises the most mountainous, and irregular tract of the country; ascending gradually on every side to Potosi, which is the loftiest part. Here the two noble rivers of Amazon and La Plata take their rise within about seventy miles of each other, in lat.  $17^{\circ} 30'$  S. and which discharge themselves into the Atlantic ocean; the former under the equator and the latter, at the 35th degree of south latitude, at a distance of nearly 2,500 miles from each other. This whole tract is cold, rude, naked and mountainous; it is the metallic region of the country; and is the source of a number of small rivers, of which those rising on the west of the mountains run



into the Pacific, and those on the east, into the rivers La Plata and Amazon, and ultimately into the Atlantic ocean.

From Oruro, to the Cordillera of Vilcanota or Santa Rosa, where is the great wall built by the Incas to divide the departments of Colla-Suyo and Tavantyn-Suyo, there is a beautiful valley of 100 leagues in extent, called Collao, and the waters which descend from the Cordilleras, and meander through this valley, form the great lake Titicaca, situated in its centre. There are two Cordilleras of the Andes which extend through this country from north to south, which are called the eastern and the western; the eastern is the loftiest, and its summits are covered with perpetual snow, while the western Cordillera exhibits less snow, and is more low, broken, and irregular, and therefore the communication between the intervening valleys and the Pacific ocean, is not interrupted. The contrary is the fact with respect to the Cordilleras of Chili, which are impassable during several months of the year. Both Cordilleras are full of gold and silver ores, but it is on the eastern Cordillera only where the *lavaderos* or pure washed gold is found. The geographical position or latitude of this region has but little influence upon its productions, the fertility of its soil or the temperature of its climate; for, from the union of a variety of physical phenomena, such as the height of the Cordilleras and their being covered with perpetual snow, their enormous masses, the extent of the plains, the declivities of the mountains, which present a broad aspect towards the



east, it possesses a climate of almost every variety of temperature, and a soil, suited to the productions of Europe and Asia; of wheat and barley, wine and oil, cotton, indigo, sugar and spices; on the plains, which are clothed in perpetual verdure, there graze vast herds of cattle, horses and mules: in the middle regions of the mountains, which are covered with pines and oaks, &c. are found, a great variety of beautiful birds, among which are the parrot, ruisanor, &c. and in the loftier regions, which are bare, the ostrich; besides vast quantities of sheep, such as the Vicunas, Alpachas, Llamas, Guanacos, Chinchillas; some of which, particularly the two first, yield a wool of singular fineness. Besides all these things which are produced in this comparatively small district, there are also found vast quantities of ores of gold and silver, and of metals of every kind.

---

## POTOSI.

THIS intendency is bounded on the north by La Paz, on the west by the Pacific ocean, on the south by Salta, and on the east by Charcas or La Plata. It is the most southern province of Upper Peru, bordering on Rio de la Plata, and is divided into eight lesser provinces or sub-delegations, which are Atacama, Carangas, Lipez, Porco, Pilaya or Cinty, Tarija, Chayanta, and Paria.



Atacama borders on the Pacific ocean, and has Arica or Low Peru on the north, and Chili, or the deserts of the same name, on the south, which are sixty leagues in extent.

The high part of this province is cold, and its productions are such as are peculiar to cold climates: such as farinaceous grains and roots. In the lower part, is the port of Cobija, (lat. 22° 39' S.) which is very much frequented by fishermen and coasting craft. Its trade consists principally in fish, of which there are two kinds that are caught in great abundance—the *congreo* and *tollo*—the latter similar to the codfish. This province contains nine small towns or villages, the chief of which is San Francisco de Atacama. The population is about 30,000 souls. It contains a mountain called *Concho*, which is celebrated for its copper mines; and here is a manufactory of copper hammers for the miners of Potosi. There are also ores of silver; and large masses of this metal in its pure state have been found here. There are also mines of cobalt; and jasper, talc, alum, and a variety of beautiful crystals, are found in abundance. By the river Loxa, the people of the interior of this province carry on a trade with the coast of Peru.

Carangas is a considerable province; its chief town is Tarapacha, which is large, and inhabited by a great number of Spaniards and creoles, on account of the celebrated silver mines of Aullagas, which are within this province. This province, like the others which lie on the Pacific ocean, has a mild and temperate climate.



Lipez, whose chief town is of the same name, has a cold climate, as it is situated on the Cordilleras. It is about sixty leagues west of the city of Potosi. In this province are produced an abundance of horned cattle, sheep and goats: it is a fine grazing district. It has also rich mines of gold and silver. Here is the famous mine of the *silver table*, where the metal has been cut off with a chisel.

On the south and south-east of Potosi, lies the province of Chinchas, whose chief town is Tupiza. Through this province runs the great post road from Buenos Ayres to Potosi. It is the largest province of Potosi, extending from north to south 144 miles, and from east to west 300 miles to the river San Juan in Tarija, by which it is separated from that province. The province of Chichas is situated one half on the mountains, which is cold, and the other half in the temperate and beautiful valleys of Tarija. The mountainous part is full of mines of gold and silver; but principally of gold, of which the richest is the mine of Suyapacha, celebrated for the defeat of the royalists during the present revolution. Its chief town is Tupiza, which has a population of 5 or 6000 whites. In this town are the workshops or laboratories of the miners, for extracting the metals and refining them. During the present revolution, there have been produced here annually between 30 and 35,000 lbs. of gold and silver. The products of the mines of Charoma, Estarca, and Cerrilos, are of a very superior quality.

The farmers of this province rear vast numbers of asses and goats, of which the former is a great



article of commerce; and at Yavi in this province are situated the large estates of the marquis of Toxo.

The road leading from Buenos Ayres, which divides this province from that of Tarija, is full of quartz, which contains gold, copper, lead, and iron, and at the small town of Mojos there has been discovered a stratum of magnetic iron ore, full of particles of gold, which is picked up after the heavy rains.

On leaving these cold regions, and travelling three hundred miles to the east and north-east of Potosi, after crossing a ridge of small mountains, we descend into the beautiful and fertile valleys of Tarija. There are four of these valleys, and within them are situated two lakes of salt water. It is difficult to describe the salubrity of the climate, the fertility of the soil, and the abundance of the rivulets and streams which water these valleys. This province is bounded by the deserted villages of Pilaya on the north and west, by Jujui on the south, and by countries inhabited by savage Indians on the east. The chief town, which is of the same name, is situated delightfully on the banks of the river Tarija, lat.  $21^{\circ} 30'$  S.; its streets cross each other at right angles; its inhabitants are composed of all the different casts of the country, and amount to about 10,000 souls. It has two rich convents, and sends a deputy to the general congress at Buenos Ayres. Its soil is humid and warm, well adapted to grazing, and produces oil and wine in great



abundance; cotton of the finest quality, and flax, grow here spontaneously in the forests and fields.

Besides the richness of the soil, this province contains mines, which were formerly very productive, as that of Choco, which yielded gold ore, that afforded from 50 to 60 per cent, of the metal. Among the gold mines, that of Chiloco is the richest. The inhabitants of this province are famous carriers, and remarkable for their physical strength. But notwithstanding the great fertility of this province, it is sterile, when compared with the neighbouring country inhabited by the Chireguanos Indians.

Passing up the valleys of Tarija, we next arrive at the province of Cinty or Pilaya, and which enjoys a climate which is not inferior to any on the globe. It produces abundance of fine wheat, grapes, roots, &c. Of the grapes, are made wine and brandy, and if not of a superior quality, it is only owing to the unskilfulness of the manufacturer. The population of the chief town, of the same name, is 12,000, and of the whole province 62,000. The rivers Toropalca, and Suypacha, which arise in the Cordilleras of Lipez, flow through these valleys, forming the great river of San Juan, which divides the two provinces of Pilaya, and Tarija. This river, which is destined at no distant period to become the channel of a great commerce, runs north until it unites with the river of Cinty, then winds westward until it meets the Pilcomayo; then through the Indian countries, until it meets the Guadalquivir, which comes from the northern Cordilleras; then



unites with the river Conception, and runs through the country of Chayhuaya, until it meets the river Salinas; then through the country of Gran-Chaco, where it meets the river Bermejo from the north, which was navigated in 1794 by Cornejo, a citizen of Salta; below on the west, it meets the river Pescado, and runs to the valley of Senta and New Oran, a town built by Pizarro, the last president of Charcas, to encourage the navigation of the river; here it unites with the river Senta, and below is the river Santa Cruz, and all this part is navigable; afterwards it unites with the river of Salta and Jujui, where it takes the name of Rio Grande, and under this name runs to Paraguay, and there again takes the name of the Bermejo, and then running eastwardly twenty-four leagues, to the city of Corrientes: it here finally assumes the name of La Plata, and running a south eastwardly direction, empties itself into the Atlantic ocean. This river is navigable at least 1,300 miles, and within 300 miles of Potosi. The head of navigation is what is called the pass of the Indians, forty leagues from the famous Indian town of Omaguaca, from which there is a good road to Potosi.

These rivers are full of fish of almost every kind, which constitute the principal food of the Indians of their borders, which abound with forest and fruit trees, such as orange, peach, apple, &c.

I have been thus minute in my description of these rivers, as they may hereafter become the channel of an extensive commerce into the interior of Peru, and because this small province of Tarija



possesses a climate of such various temperature, that an inhabitant of Norway and of Italy, may find a climate like his own, suited to his constitution and habits.

On the north and east of Potosi, are situated the provinces of Paria and Porco. The chief town of the former is Toledo, which was founded by the viceroy of that name. This country is also cold. In the Cordillera of Condo-Condo, are mines of gold and silver. In this province the river Desaguadero, which is an outlet of the great lake Titicaca, is lost in the ground. The wool of this province, and of which there is abundance, is equal to that of Segovia in Spain; the sheep are uncommonly large, and the mutton is very fat and of fine flavour. The best sheep sell for half a dollar each. The cheese, which is made of sheep's milk, is superior to the finest cheese of Europe, all the varieties of which I believe I have tasted; it is known as the cheese of Paria.

---

## PORCO.

THIS province extends 120 miles from north to south, and 180 miles from east to west. Its chief town is Puna, situated at the bottom of the mountain of the same name, where the Incas procured immense quantities of silver, and even now, these mines are worked with great profit. Here the Span-



iards are numerous, and they are generally engaged in mining. In this province also, are mines of rock salt, in the town of Yocalla, from whence are produced vast quantities, which are used in the various processes of extracting the metals from their ores.

In the centre of this province is situated the city of Potosi, lat 19° 30' S. being 1650 miles distant from Buenos Ayres, 1215 miles from Lima; and 300 miles from the Pacific coast. The city is built at the bottom of the celebrated mountain of the same name, which is so famous for the immense riches which it has been continually pouring forth for three centuries. From whatever side you approach this mountain, you will be struck with its singular appearance. Its figure is conic, and it is covered with green, red, yellow, and blue spots, which give it a very curious appearance; it resembles no other mountain in the world; it is entirely bare, without any trees or shrubs. By its side there is a smaller mountain, called *Huayna Potosi* while the principal mountain is called *Hatun Potosi*, meaning father and son. In the night, when the mouths of the mines are lighted up, the beautiful and striking appearance of this mountain can scarcely be imagined, much less described.

The city of Potosi is nearly three leagues in circumference; it is divided into the city proper, and *Yngenios*, where are situated the laboratories of the miners, and which are separated by a small river called the river of the lakes, over which there is a stone bridge. The city and the *Yngenios* are nearly a mile apart. The streets of the city are narrow



and irregular, and paved with round stones, with side walks. On the north of the city there is an extensive promenade, with fountains of water, but no trees or shrubs, and but a very little verdure, which is a small species of barley. The houses are uniformly of one story, built of stone and brick, with balconies of wood, and without chimneys. Each house has a yard, and sometimes three, in the rear, and in almost every yard there are fountains of water, which are lined with stone, and often very beautiful. The houses contain, generally, a drawing room, dining room, bed rooms, &c. and each servant has his separate apartment. The houses of the wealthy, who are numerous here, are splendidly furnished. At the time I visited this city, in 1808, there was a church rebuilding in the public square, and which was not interrupted during the revolution, both Belgrano and Goyeneche giving orders that the work should go on. There are in the city three monasteries, five convents, and nineteen parochial churches. The churches of the monks and nuns are richly ornamented with silver. Every altar has its front of solid silver, and there are five altars in every church; also four chandeliers of at least two yards in height, with corresponding branches, all of silver. The other churches are not so rich, but their utensils are always of silver. The Archbishopric of Charcas contains 180 churches, which are more or less furnished with silver ornaments; those churches near the mines are the richest, such as those of Puna, Chayanta, Popo, Tupiza, &c.

On the north side of the public square is situated the Mint, which is a grand edifice of free stone, of a quadrangular figure, two stories high, and nearly 450 feet square, including three pits or yards, to-



gether with offices for the governors and workmen, and apartments for the extensive machinery. Its corridors are of ivory, made at Biscay; the machinery for coining is very complicated, which was also brought from Spain, although the artists of the country do all the repairs, and are skilful engravers. The machinery is all worked by mules. The coining of this mint is superior to that of Lima, or Santiago.

According to official statements published in the "*Mercurio Peruano*," there were coined in the mint of Potosi, from 1790 to 94, both inclusive, the sum of \$27,967,566, which makes an average of \$5,593, 513 for each year. According to the accounts of Humboldt, there were coined in the year 1790, \$3,942,592, and the proportion of gold and silver was as 1 to 200. It is generally understood at Potosi, that the common yearly average is about \$4,000,000. There is also a bank in this city, called the bank of St. Charles, which is established for the purpose of buying gold and silver bullion for the mint, at fixed prices; this establishment belongs, like the mint, to the government. The price of pure ingots of silver is \$1 an ounce,\* and of manufactured silver or plate 87 1 2 cents; the price of gold is from \$12 to \$16 an ounce, varying according to its carats. These prices are always the same the only difference is in the quality of the metal. The government enjoys the profit in these purchases.

\* The intrinsic value of pure silver, by the ounce in the United States, is \$1,29—of silver of standard fineness, \$1,15. Gold of 22 carats is worth \$17,77; of 24 carats, or pure gold, \$19,39. These are the mint prices; the prices of commerce are now much higher.



There are six houses of public entertainment, or hotels, and a great number of tippling shops, in the city. There is a market-house of two hundred yards in length, which is supplied with every kind of production from all parts of the country; with fruits from the neighbouring vallies, such as chirimoyas, peaches, oranges, pine apples, &c. with meat and vegetables of various kinds. Fish, however, is extremely scarce and dear. The fish called *Dorado* is highly esteemed, and commands a great price. It is reported in Potosi, that some years ago, a clerk of some rich man of that city, was sent to market to purchase one of these fish, and that he found the clerk of some other man of wealth, bargaining for a fine one; that the clerks got into a strife to see which would out-bid the other; that finally one offered \$5000, and took the fish; and the story adds, that the master of the clerk who was out-done, was so incensed that he turned him out of his service.

Generally speaking, the markets of Potosi are as abundantly supplied (the article of fish excepted,) as those of New York or Philadelphia. When I was there, I did not find the prices so extravagant as has generally been reported by travellers. Baron de Humboldt observes, that provisions are very dear in Potosi, without recollecting that the neighbouring countries are extremely fertile. The expenses of living are certainly much higher in Potosi than in any other city of Upper Peru; but are very low when compared to the cities of North America. The price of wheat flour is about \$1,25 per 100 lbs. and a fine sheep sells for less than \$1. The roads leading into the city present a curious spectacle in the morning, of many thousand lamas, asses, and mules, loaded with the produce of the country, for



the market. The roads are irregular and broken, particularly to Condorapacheta, distant twenty-five leagues from the city, but by no means dangerous. The large timbers used for wheel axles in the mills, are brought from Tucuman on carriages. The road of Despoblado, which crosses the table land of the Cordilleras between Salta and Oruro, is more even and smooth, and on this road about 80,000 mules, in troops of from 4 to 5000, are driven annually to Lima to be sold.

The climate of Potosi is very cold; and, for the distance of twelve miles around the city, there are no trees or shrubbery of any kind, and nothing vegetates except a species of green moss. In the months of May and June the mornings are extremely cold, as these are winter months in this climate; but the nights are remarkably serene, and mild, and the sky is very beautiful. It is not so cold but that flowers are kept in rooms without fires, during the severest weather.

The houses are without chimnies and fires, and the apartments are kept warm by being closed during the cold season, and plentifully covered with Alpacha skins, and by burning perfumery in them. On entering a house, a visiter is always presented with a silver chafing-dish of perfumery burning; this is always the first salutation.

There are frequent snow storms here, but the snow never remains on the ground longer than twenty hours; the cattle are never housed.

On the hills above the town there are about thirty artificial lakes, for supplying the city with water, and turning the mills of the miners. It is a remarkable fact, that notwithstanding their great elevation, these lakes are never frozen over, although there is much frost in their neighbourhood on the



mountains. It frequently happens that these supplies of water fail, for want of rains, and then the mills are stopped, and the operations of the miners in extracting the metals suspended.

The population of the city of Potosi, according to the calculations of Canete, who was assessor-general of that intendency, and had a perfect knowledge of all the country, amounted, in 1808, to 40,000; and this statement I believe to be correct for that period. Mons. Fresier, who travelled in that country in 1714, says the population then was 70,000, and that the Spaniards were to the Indians as 1 to 6; that there were nineteen parishes, now there are but sixteen. Wilcocke, in his history of Buenos Ayres, states, that in 1807 the population was 70,000, and that including all those employed in the various processes of mining, it would amount to 100,000; but Alcedo, who wrote thirty years ago, says the number of inhabitants then was only 25,000.

The rebellion of Tupac Amaru wasted the population of this city, and greatly checked its progress, but it has rapidly augmented during the last twenty-five years. The official statements published by the government of Buenos Ayres, give the population of the province or intendency as amounting to 112,000, without including Indians.

This city is the focus of all the commerce between Buenos Ayres and the interior provinces, and is a place of great business. The *Azogueros*\*, or proprietors of mines, receive liberal advances from the government to enable them to carry on their

\* In Mexico, the *Azogueros*, according to Humboldt, are miners, or those who are employed in the amalgamation of metals. In Peru, these persons are called *Beneficiadores*.



works; these advances are \$25,000 for every *Yngeneio*, or amalgamation work, which each *Azogüero* shall establish, and some have two or three. This money is lent on the condition that the government receive one shilling on every ounce of silver produced by the *Azogüero*. This class of men, whose capital is thus liberally augmented, have greatly increased the business, and added to the embellishments of the city. They live in the most profuse and princely style; it is not uncommon for them to possess gold plate: such as plates, goblets, spoons, forks, &c. They employ great numbers of clerks, and have numerous attendants.

This city is much frequented by strangers from different parts of the country; it is a place of great gayety and dissipation. There are no theatres, and the principal amusement for all classes is gambling; and faro-banks and billiard tables are scattered all over the city. The city is immensely rich in gold and silver; money is within the reach of every body, and very abundant, as may be supposed, when more than \$10,000 are coined every day, the year round. The *Azogüeros* are extremely profuse in their expenditures, squandering their enormous wealth with the same liberal hand with which it is poured into their lap. As the source of their wealth is in their inexhaustible mines, and if poor to-day, they may be rich to-morrow, their habits become essentially different from those of the merchant or manufacturer, whose profits depend upon calculation and economy.

The manufactures of this city are in a wretched state, being confined principally to the making of leather, hats, and tools from imported steel, which is sold at an enormous price. The leather is made from goat-skins, which are of superior quality and



very abundant here. Gold leaf is also manufactured in great quantities. This article is much used in the churches, and the candles even are gilded before they are lighted; and in the private houses of the rich, the leaves of the flowers which they have in great abundance in their drawing rooms, are often gilded with gold leaf. There are no carriages in this city, and when the ladies take the air, it is on the backs of horses or mules, or in sedan chairs, which are very common. There are persons here whose profession it is to teach the mules and horses to travel with an easy gait, for the ladies. There is another mode of travelling which is curious: a chair is fixed on poles which are laid across the backs of two mules, and in which two or three persons frequently ride. The countess of Casa Real, a few years ago, attempted to introduce coaches into the city, but the first time her carriage was drove into the street, it was fairly ran away with by the mules, and dashed to pieces against a church. This city is situated on the side of the lower part of the mountain, in the valley at the foot of it and is altogether too steep and irregular to admit of wheel carriages.

In the other part of the town, called *Yngenios*, which lies north west of the city, in the valley, are the mills or amalgamation works of the miners. The population of this part consists of Indians, Kaachas or Cholo miners, and other workmen, and amounts to about 6000 souls. The Indians of the *Mita*, which is a kind of annual conscription, by which the Indians of several provinces in Upper and Lower Peru are obliged to work in the mines, present a most miserable and shocking appearance; they are employed in the hardest labour of the mines, such as stamping the ores, raising them from the mines,



and attending to the trituration, which is done by the mills, and by which they are continually exposed to inhale the deleterious powders of the minerals. The price of their labour is 50 cents per day, and although experience shows that their labour is not useful as they are unfit for mining, and those mines are invariably worked the best in which the Indians of the *Mita* are not employed, yet the infamous avarice of the *Mineros*, dooms them to these noxious employments. Ulloa had the wickedness to say that the labour of these Indians is not severe; and the dictionary of the Spanish academy, ashamed of giving a correct definition of the *Mita*, has concealed the truth. The poor Indians are obliged to sleep in the open, cold air, on the bare ground, and from their exposure, the noxious inhalation of the mineral dust, and the hardships of their servitude, at least one third of every conscription die.

The *Kaachas* are, from practice, well acquainted with the business of mining, as it is carried on in Peru. Their numbers at Potosi, are between 4 and 6000. Their wages are from 1 to \$2 a day, according to their skilfulness. The *benefisciadores*, have \$6 a day for superintending the works. The *Kaachas* are very fond of spirituous liquors, drinking at once, almost their daily wages. It is not their wages which induces them to labour, but a custom in the mines, which is this; the mines are worked from Monday noon to Saturday noon, on account of the proprietors; but from Saturday noon to Monday noon, including Sunday, the miners work on their own account. This is an ancient and inveterate custom, and cannot be changed. It frequently happens that the miners discover new veins, and sometimes take the ore of their employers, which was



left by them at the end of their week's work, and extract the metal after their own fashion, and in the most rude manner. The quantity of silver obtained in this way, never has been calculated; and therefore all estimates of the quantity of the precious metals produced by the mines of South America, which have been made by travellers, must be erroneous. M. Torres, has justly applied this remark to the statements of the Baron de Humboldt, and adds, as a further reason for the inaccuracy of these statements, that they are taken from the registers of mints and custom houses, and that it is the interest of the miners and merchants to save, as much as they can, the high duties which are imposed upon the precious metals.

There are in Potosi, 120 mills or amalgamation works, although they are not all employed; each one has a large pit or yard enclosed, and various offices for the superintendants and workmen, and stables for the mules. These mills resemble a common French plaster mill; the wheel is about 25 or 30 feet in diameter, and is so constructed as to lift up and down an iron or copper hammer, weighing 200 pounds, by which the ores are reduced to a fine powder. The timbers for the axles of these wheels are very long and strong, and each one costs about \$800; the great price is owing to the distance which they are brought, and the badness of the roads through which they are carried on rudely constructed carriages. The mills are attended each by two or three Indians, whose faces are muffled in order to prevent the inhalation of the mineral dust.

The process of separating the metals from their ores, which I witnessed in Potosi, is very well described by Wilcocke, and it is as follows: the ores are first reduced to a fine powder or flower by the



hammers, which I have described; sometimes, in order to render them more friable, they are previously roasted, in an oven or furnace. The powder is sifted through fine iron or copper sieves which are large, and handled by four or five Indians; the fine powder is taken away for amalgamation, and the coarse is returned to the mill. The ore is sometimes pulverized dry, and sometimes with water; if dry, it is afterwards wet, and well kneaded with the feet for a considerable time, which is done by the Indians. The mud is then laid upon a floor in square parcels of a foot thick, each containing about 2500 weight, and these masses are called *cuerpos* or bodies. On these heaps about 200 pounds of common salt are thrown, which is moulded and incorporated with the metallic mud for two or three days. After this, the proportion of mercury which is judged proper, is added to the mass. The quantity of mercury used depends upon the supposed richness of the ore. They generally allow from four and an half to six pounds of mercury to one pound of silver. The masses are now stirred eight or ten times a day in order to promote the chemical action, and to accelerate the amalgamation of the mercury and silver; and for this purpose, lime is also frequently added, and sometimes lead or tin ore. In cold weather this process of amalgamation goes on slowly, so that they are often obliged to stir the mass, during a month or six weeks. When the silver is supposed to be all collected, the mass is carried to the *Tinas del Lavadero*, or vats, made of stone or wood, and lined with leather, into which a current of water is directed, to wash off the earth. There are commonly three vats through which the mineral is passed, and the same process is performed in each. When the water runs off clear, the



amalgam is found at the bottom of the vats. This is put into a woollen bag, and hung up for the quicksilver to drain out; it is then beat with flat pieces of wood, and pressed by a weight laid upon it; when as much of the quicksilver as can be got out by this means, is expelled, they put the paste or residuum into a mould of wood, made in the form of a pyramid, at the bottom of which is a copper plate full of holes; after it has become hard, the mould is taken off and the mass with its copper bottom is placed over a vessel of water, and is covered with an earthen cap or reversed crucible, on which ignited charcoal is placed in order to evaporate the quicksilver, some part of which is collected by the cap with which the mass is covered, and is saved. After the evaporation, there remains a lump of grains of silver, which require to be fused before they become united into a mass; they are then cast into ingots, which are stamped. The ingots are cast in a pyramidal form when destined for the mint; if intended for private use, they are moulded into a variety of fancy figures according to individual taste, and are frequently employed to ornament the houses of the proprietors of the mines. In these tedious and rude processes of amalgamation, it is calculated that one third at least of the silver is lost, and twice the time and expense incurred, which would be necessary, in a more enlightened mode, to complete the operation. Of the mercury, it is impossible to say how much is wasted, but according to Humboldt, the *Azogueros* of Mexico, by whom metallurgy is much better understood, lose in general from eleven to fourteen ounces of mercury for every eight ounces of silver. The *beneficiadores* of Potosi, are by far the most skilful of all Upper Peru. In the other provinces, instead of



tritulating wheels, they use grindstones to pulverise the ores, and every other operation is equally rude and slovenly. The mode I have described, is the only one practised in Potosi, in extracting the metals from their ores, and the chemical principles upon which the various processes depend, are probably not at all understood by those who have practised them for many years.

The mountain of Potosi, which contains the far-famed silver mines, is 6000 *varas* (16,250 feet,) above the level of the sea, according to Luis Goudin, of the academy of sciences of Paris, referred to by Alcedo, in his "dictionario geografico de America;" and its height above the neighbouring plain, according to Baron de Humboldt, is 1624 *varas* (4397 feet.) From these data we may fix the elevation of the city of Potosi to be about 11,000 feet above the level of the sea; an elevation nearly twice as great as the white hills of New Hampshire.

At a point distant 1492 feet from the summit of the mountain, its circumference has been calculated at upwards of four miles; and at another point 980 feet lower, at upwards of eight miles. Alcedo states the circumference of the mountain at its base to be three miles, while Wilcocke says it is eighteen miles. I should not myself judge it to be more than nine; I have never walked around it, but I have frequently ascended to its summit; the walk generally occupied an hour. The view from the top of this lofty mountain is the most grand and picturesque in the world, of valleys, and lakes, and mountains; this is the loftiest point of the Cordilleras in that quarter, and I believe there are but few peaks that are higher in all Upper Peru. But the sublimity and beauty of the surrounding scenery did not so much interest my feelings as the cele-



brated mountain under my feet, which has poured forth for so many years its lavas of silver upon the world;—to animate enterprise and reward industry; to pamper the luxurious, and minister to the comforts of the sober and virtuous; to disseminate knowledge and religion, and to spread the desolations of the sword—marshalling armies in the field, and pointing the thunder of navies on the ocean; filling cities with monuments of taste and art, and overwhelming them with ruin; founding mighty empires, and levelling them in the dust:—inciting, in short, to virtue and to crime, and being the source of much good, and the “root of all evil,” in the world.

This mine was discovered so late as the year 1545, by an Indian named Hualpa, and accidentally: as he was pursuing his goats up the mountain, he laid hold of a bush, whose roots gave way, and laid bare beneath it a mass of pure silver. In that country, however, the people say the first discoverer was not Hualpa, but Potocchi, Potossi, or Potocsi, from whom the mountain takes its name. The first man who commenced working the mine was Thomas Villaroel, a Spaniard. These mines produced, from the year of discovery to 1761, the sum of \$929,000,000, which have paid duties; and to our days, the enormous amount of \$1,043,083,733. From the rude mode of working the mines, and the ignorance of the miners, the exterior part only of the mountain has been worked, and the quantity has decreased so little in so many years, that the silver extracted from these mines has only diminished in the proportion of 4 to 1. It has been ascertained from experience, that the richest mines are the deepest; and this is the general fact with respect to the table silver mine, and all the other mines of Peru; and the deepest mines are, of course, the most exposed to inundations from the water.—The rich-



est veins of Potosi have been inundated, and in consequence abandoned, and so has been the mine of Lipes, with whose owner I am well acquainted. When this mine was first discovered, he informed me that he cut the silver out with chisels, but the water soon flowed in, and obliged him to abandon it. In his prosperity, he would lose at the gambling table thousands of dollars in one night, but when I knew him he was supported by the charity of his friends.

In order to draw off the water from the mines of Potosi, there was a subterranean gallery dug, under the direction of Weber, a German geometrician, who came to the country in the expedition of the baron de Nordenflycht, sent by the Spanish government. The geometrician received his salary of \$4,000 a year, but his work did not answer the purpose, and it was only carried on by him from motives of private speculation. This gallery at its mouth is large enough to admit a man on horseback: it is ornamented with masonry of stone at its entrance, with an inscription of the time of its commencement, &c. It extends into the mountain horizontally, diminishing in its size, for the distance of 1 1-2 or 2 miles. Its sides are lined and its roof arched the whole way with stone. It is really of no use, except as a place to confine culprits in; and here were sent the troops of Charcas who expressed themselves in favour of the patriots, by the president Nieto. The work was begun in 1779, and was still continued at the time I visited the mountain, in 1808. It is a monument of enormous expenditure, and of the most consummate folly.

Afterwards, another scheme to drain off the water was projected, which was approved of by the Spanish court; and by a royal decree of the 23d June, 1780, the colonial government was ordered to take measures to obtain accurate information upon the



subject, and to employ some skilful person to take charge of the work. Don Rubin de Celis, a lieutenant in the navy, was sent to Potosi as a fit person to undertake the project. It was to be a gallery so dug as to intersect the principal veins of metal, and the shafts which had been sunk for the purpose of light and ventilation. He made all the necessary calculations of the direction and dimensions of the gallery, and its probable expense, which was estimated at the different sums of \$1,000,000 and of 250,000, according to the mode in which the work should be executed. This project was never carried into effect; and the richest veins of Potosi are still inundated with water.

The road to the mines lies on the north-side of the mountain, as do also the mines. It ascends in a zig-zag direction; it is very wide, but is rude, uneven, and stony. On this road there are constantly employed at least 20,000 asses, in carrying the ores from the mines to the amalgamation works. The ore is conveyed in bags made of skins, on the backs of the animals, no carriages of any kind being employed. There are a great many mines open on the mountain; the shafts are of various sizes and depths, sometimes perpendicular, and sometimes horizontal, pursuing the course of the metallic vein. They are extremely incommodious to the workmen. In some parts there are spacious chambers excavated, where the ore has been taken out, the roofs of which are supported by huge pieces of timber. The ore is obtained without difficulty by the rude pickaxes and other iron and steel instruments of the miners. It is raised to the mouth of the mine, when the shaft is perpendicular, by ropes, which are pulled by the Indians, and when the course of the shaft is oblique or horizontal, it is carried on the backs of the Indians in bags of skin. To afford him light in his dark retreat, the miner

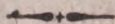


has a tallow candle, stuck in his button hole or collar. The convenience or comfort of the miners is never consulted, and when they come down from the mountain on Saturdays, they present a most hideous picture of filth. They collect in throngs at the tippling houses in the city, spending their week's wages in brandy and chicha, and they keep the town in an uproar, with the music of their guitars and flutes, and their drunken brawls. In no other city of Peru do the miners present so miserable an appearance as in Potosi, for here only is the mita in force.

The ores from which the metals are extracted are of various natures, consistencies, and colours; some of which are white and gray, mixed with reddish spots called *plata blanca*, or white silver. When this ore is broken, it exhibits grains of pure silver. Some ores are entirely black, exhibiting no silver, and these are called *negrillos*; some black mixed with lead, called *plomo ronco*, or coarse lead, in which silver appears when it is scratched with a hard instrument; this is generally the richest. I have seen specimens of this ore which when broken exhibited pure silver in lumps. There is another species which, if rubbed against any hard substance, becomes red, and is therefore called *rosicler*, resembling a rose; it is harder than any of the other sorts, and is very rich. There is another species which is brilliant like *talc*, and is called *paco*; there is also an ore which is green, called *cobrisso*, or copperish, and which is the most common ore; the others are rare. There are a great variety of silver ores in this mountain, the principal of which I have here given in the vulgar names of the miners, and at the same time have described their external characters, as they appear to the eye. These varieties are not so general in the other mines.



The ores of Potosi yield the metal in various proportions; soon after the discovery of the mines, the average was from 64 to 72 ounces per quintal. (100 pounds.) Since the commencement of the 18th century, the metals have produced only from 24 to 32 ounces per caxon of 5000 pounds, or from 48-100 to 64-100 per quintal. Baronde Humboldt, who makes these statements, also says, that from 1574 (29 years after the discovery) to 1789, the mean riches of the minerals have diminished in the proportion of 170 to 1; while, as I have before stated, the quantity of silver extracted from the mines has only diminished in the proportion of 4 to 1; and if they are not the richest in the world, they rank immediately after the mines of Guanaxuato, the most celebrated in Mexico.



## CHARCAS OR LA PLATA.

THIS intendency is bounded on the north by Cochabamba, on the west and south by Potosi, and on the east by Santa Cruz de la Sierra, or Puno. It is divided into four lesser provinces or subdelegations, to wit, Tomina, Punabamba, Yamparaes, and Chayanta. The population of the intendency is 112,000, without including Indians. The province of Tomina borders on the east on the country of the Chiriguano Indians, and lies south of the city of Charcas, the capital of the intendency. Its climate is warm; it has some vineyards and sugar plantations, and rears fine cattle and sheep. In this province is the beautiful plain of Tarapaya, which is a delightful region.

Punabamba is bounded by Tomina on the north,



by Potosi on the south, and on the east and south-east it borders on a country inhabited by savage Indians, and on the west and north-west it is bounded by the province of Yamparaes. It extends 72 miles from east to west, and 42 from north to south. It lies south-east of the city of Charcas. This province is full of cultivated farms; it has no mines that have been discovered. Its population is about 5000.

The province of Yamparaes contains sixteen towns or villages, and its chief town is San Sebastian. It is a small province, and mountainous. Its productions are wheat, barley, fruits, &c. for the markets of Potosi and Charcas. It is situated a little south-east of the city of Charcas, the capitol of the intendency. This province is watered by the rivers Pilcomayo and Cachimayo which flow into the river La Plata, and which are celebrated for the abundance and excellence of their fish. The river Pilcomayo has a fine meandering course through this province, and its banks are clothed with verdure, and covered with forest trees.

Chayanta is bounded by Cochabamba on the north, by Oruro on the north-west, by Yamparaes on the south-east, and by Santa Cruz de la Sierra on the east. Its extent from north to south is 132 miles, and from east to west 108 miles. It contains 27 towns, and has a population of 30,000. In the mountains there are mines of gold and silver which have been worked. It contains some forests, and is principally an agricultural district.

The city of Charcas, the capital of the intendency, is situated in the north-east part of it, and lies partly in the province of Yamparaes, and partly in that of Chayanta. It is distant 75 miles from Potosi, in a north-easterly direction, in latitude 19° south. This city, as I have stated, was founded by one of Pizarro's captains, in the year 1538, and on the ruins of the ancient Indian town of Chuquisa-



ca,\* by which name, as well as that of La Plata, or the city of silver, it is sometimes called. The population of this city is 15,000, of whom 5000 are Spaniards and Creoles, and the remainder Mestizos, Indians, and Negroes.

The city stands in a plain, surrounded on every side by several small hills. Its climate is very fine, and its atmosphere serene; except in the rainy season, when there are sometimes thunder-storms. The streets cross each other at right angles, are very wide, well paved, and altogether the city is very neat. In the city there is a promenade, ornamented with colonnades and obelisks, in the centre of which is an artificial fountain of water. The houses are regularly of one story, with balconies of wood, and with spacious gardens in the rear. This city is the see of an archbishop, who has an annual income of \$60,000 and upwards. The cathedral is a very magnificent edifice; the gate is of copper, which was cast by a Cholo, and is very massy, and much ornamented. There are few churches in the world which are larger than this, and I imagine, fewer that can compare with it in the richness of its ornaments. Its pulpit is of solid silver, as also the smaller pulpits, from which the epistle and the mass are chanted; its altars and huge chandeliers are also of solid silver. The palace of the archbishop is a splendid building, with grand saloons and spacious gardens with fountains of water; and it is furnished in a princely style. There are also in this city five convents, three nunneries, an university, two colleges, and an academy of lawyers. In the university and colleges there are about 500 students, who come from all parts of the country. The price of tuition is \$120

\* The Indian name, in the Quechua language, was Choque-Chaka, or bridge of gold. The Indians passed through this town, over the Pilcomayo, to the celebrated mines of Porco.



per annum to each student. I have already stated the branches which are taught in those colleges; the study of mathematics and the natural sciences were prohibited by the Spanish government. In order to obtain admission into the law academy, it is necessary to have taken the degree of doctor or bachelor of civil laws in the university, which is obtained by undergoing a satisfactory examination in Justinian's Institutes, and which costs from 6 to \$800.

In the academy is taught the practice of the courts, and the regular course is two years; the candidate then is strictly examined before the judges, and if qualified, is admitted to the bar. This city is the seat of the audience, or supreme court of justice, whose jurisdiction extends over the whole of Upper Peru. There are five judges, including the chief justice, who is called *regente*, and the others *oidores* from the Latin *auditor*; and an attorney-general, who is called *fiscal*. The *regente* has \$9000 salary, and the others \$4000 each. These judges are called the ministers of the king; they all come from Spain, and are very pompous personages. They are clothed with great power, and generally display the consciousness of it, in the haughtiness of their demeanor. A few years since a lady of Charcas left a sum of money in her will to be appropriated in soliciting the king of Spain to appoint the deity an *oidor* of Charcas. The idea was perhaps impious, but it shows with what feelings these persons are regarded by the people, and the disgust which their manners excite.

---

## QRURO.

THIS city is governed by a municipality independent of the provinces, and is not properly included



in any of them. It is situated in  $17^{\circ} 58'$  south latitude, being 132 miles south-west of the city of La Paz, 171 miles north-west of the city of Potosi, and 150 miles west of the city Cochabamba. It is admirably situated for a flourishing inland commerce; being 170 miles east of the port of Arica on the Pacific Ocean; and the post road from Buenos Ayres to Lima, and the road of Despoblado, from Salta over the table land of the Cordilleras, pass through it. On the east of the city, a distance of about six miles, is the river Desaguadero, which connects the two lakes of Titicaca and Paria. The city stands near the Cordillera of the coast, or western Cordillera, which is here much broken, and a good mule road passes over it to Arica. The town is built at the foot of the mineral mountain of the same name. Its figure is a crescent; it is well laid out, and its houses are regularly of one story. It has five convents. Its markets are well supplied, and with fresh fish from the ocean. The population is about 15,000; its climate is cold, and it is much exposed to the winds which blow from the Cordillera. The cattle and sheep of the neighbouring districts are very fine, and particularly the latter. Although the mines are generally poor, yet that of Popo (distant from the city 18 miles) previous to the revolution, yielded annually 60,000lb. of silver. There is a manufactory here of bridle bits, which is pretty extensive; the price of iron of which they are made is enormous, being sometimes \$80 for 100 pounds. There is also a manufactory of copper ware, and a famous powder manufactory, which is supplied with salt petre from the neighbourhood, which affords it in great abundance.

This city is the centre of commerce for all the provinces, and during the revolutionary war it has constantly been occupied as the principal military position of Upper Peru. From it to Lima there is a good road, the country being almost a perfect le-



vel to Vilcanota, a distance of nearly 400 miles, and from that place to Lima, although the country is more rugged, a fine carriage road by the coast might easily be made; but the Spaniards, who are here the lords of the soil, from the sluggishness of their genius, and their entire destitution of public spirit, have neglected it; indeed, they have always conducted in this country, as if they considered themselves mere sojourners in it, and that the period was always near, when it would be wrested from them. There is not a single work of public improvement performed by them, to be found; no public roads, no bridges, no establishments of commerce, nor improvements of navigation. In this fine country, where nature is never idle, and where the choicest productions of the globe grow almost spontaneously, the hand of the Spaniard has never been employed, except in torturing the bowels of the earth for gold, to satiate the lust of his avarice, or in oppressing the natives of the country, to gratify his pride of power.

Oruro was formerly inhabited by wealthy miners, but in the revolution of Tupac Amaru, it suffered severely. I particularly refer to the brothers, Rodrigues, natives of the country, who being accused by the Spaniards of being implicated in that rebellion, were arrested, their property confiscated, and themselves sent to Buenos Ayres, and thrown into a dungeon; and without being proved guilty of any offence, or even brought to trial, they suffered a confinement of twenty years, and until their death. These men possessed immense riches; on their arrest by Segurola, the governor of La Paz, there were found in their houses great quantities of silver, and their store rooms were full of ingots. This wealth, the value of which can hardly be estimated, was plundered from them in the most barbarous manner, and that wretch, Segurola, on his death-



bed, being tormented by his guilty conscience, declared who were his accomplices in the infamous transaction. This mode of robbing the wealthy Creoles has not been uncommon in this country. I now know men residing in La Paz who have been made rich by this species of plunder; and it is well known that the discoverer of the mine of Laicacota was thrown into prison, and finally put to death by the Spaniards, whom he had generously admitted to participate in the riches of his mine.

---

## COCHABAMBA.

THIS intendency is bounded on the north by Moxos and La Paz; on the west by La Paz and Charcas; on the south by Charcas; and on the east by Santa Cruz de la Sierra, and Chiquitos. These are the general boundaries, but its particular limits are well described by the celebrated Prussian naturalist Hænke.

The territory of Cochabamba forms an oblong tract of land, extending from east to west 520 miles, and from north to south 92 miles.

There is no province in the two Americas which nature has defined with such determinate and lasting boundaries as that of Cochabamba. The Rio Grande, a noble river, separates it from the districts of Chayanta, Yamparaes, and Charcas on the south; a chain of mountains situated in the interior, and whose summits reach the clouds, constitute a formidable barrier on the north, and separate it from the mountains of the Andes. The industry of man has with gentle advances, extended the territory of this province, and converted what appeared impe-



netrable forests, into the most beautiful and productive regions of the earth. The Rio Grande and the chain of mountains before mentioned, incline a little to the north of direct east lines, but their courses are always parallel. On the west this intendency is bounded by that immense chain of mountains, which are sometimes called the Cordilleras of the coast; and on the east, it extends to those vast unbroken plains which reach almost to the Atlantic ocean. On carefully considering the geographical features of this territory, it is found to slope off gradually from the highest elevations on the west into those unexplored and interminable plains on the east, where the empire of the native inhabitants, the Indians and wild beasts, has never been disputed. This declivity forms an inclined plane, whose elevated part is the highest point of the Cordilleras, and whose base reposes upon the lowest level of the continent. It is to this singular and happy position, that Cochabamba owes its fertility, and, that in so very small a portion of the globe, every variety of soil and climate in the world is found. On the summits of the Cordilleras, an eternal winter reigns, where the inhabitants of the remotest regions of Siberia and Camschatka, may encounter a climate as unfriendly as their own.

The interior or lower part of the Cordilleras contains immense quantities of metals, and the declivities of the mountains and the plains beneath, abound in every kind of mineral, saline, and vegetable production. The lakes of the country are inexhaustible fountains of common salt, which is dissolved in the rainy season, and crystallized in the dry; which process is rapidly carried on in a country of such great elevation. In these parts of the country are found plains covered with mineral alkali, (carbonate of soda,) sal admirable, (sulphate of soda,) and magnesia vitriolata, (sulphate of magnesia.) Descend-



ing from these mountains, upon the scattered rocks are found vitriol and alum, which are called *cachina* and *milllo*, whose masses are decomposed by the powerful hand of time.

Upon the tops of the mountains, which are covered with snow, where the atmosphere is too rare for the respiration of ordinary animals, are found the different species of the Peruvian camel, the guanaco, the llama, the alpacha, and the vicuna: and the wool of the latter is esteemed the finest in the world. Notwithstanding the extreme barrenness of this Cordillera, and its great elevation, nature with a bountiful hand, and as if intending that every part of this most favoured and interesting province should minister to the comforts and necessities of man, has spread over its precipices and highest peaks, a multitude of healing herbs, whose medicinal virtues have placed them in the highest rank in the *materia medica*. These are *yareta*, *gentian*, and every species of *valerian*. Descending the Cordilleras to the neighbouring valleys, and the profound ravines, there is experienced, within a very limited extent, the influence of a climate extremely sweet and benignant, and which is at the medium temperature of the whole globe. It is here that nature has established a just equilibrium between the gradations of heat and cold, and which, in proportion to its elevation, and its particular formation, has tempered the intense heat of the torrid zone with the frosts of the arctic circle. The mild and cheering temperature which in Europe prevails only in the spring, is here perpetual, and the variations of the thermometer between the heat of the rainy seasons and the cold of the dry, are so small as scarcely to be perceptible. This province produces in equal abundance maize, barley, wheat, vines, the olive, and all the fruits of the ancient continent. In the narrow defiles, watered by the rapid rivers of the Cordil-



leras, the refraction of the solar rays augments the heat, and the sides are covered with trees, whose numbers increase in proportion to their distance from the summits of the mountains. The mountains of the Andes, which are nearest to the elevated peaks of the Cordillera of the interior, have other modifications of soil and temperature, which are peculiar to Upper Peru. Trees and plants innumerable cover the soil with prodigious abundance, and fill the atmosphere with a salubrity and fragrance beyond any other region in the world. In this place, properly speaking, the temperature of the torrid zone commences. The fecundity of nature is here displayed in all its richness and beauty; all the animals, and vegetables of every variety and class, attract here the curiosity of the philosopher; and their number and beauty transcend the powers of imagination.

A considerable but uniform degree of heat, and a constant but agreeable moisture in the atmosphere, produce an equanimity of temper and of feeling, to which the people of variable climates are strangers, and which cannot be sufficiently appreciated. This fertile soil produces the palm, the pine, or anana, the banana, so various in its species, cotton Peruvian bark, and cocoa.

The union of the streams which take their rise in this chain of mountains, forms the immense river of the Amazons, and at the foot of the smallest chain commence those vast plains extending towards the east, whose limits have never been explored.

Such are the varieties of soil and climate in the province of Cochabamba, and from which its fertility and the multitude of its productions may easily be imagined. In this little work, the result of long and painful excursions, I have endeavoured to display, with all the order and method of which I am capable, the most interesting of its productions;



they are worthy in all respects of the attention of the government, which in time will reap the greatest advantages, if it will patronise the exploration of it, since its productions are the most important materials—the elements and foundation of manufactures and the arts, and of all the objects of industry. The above are the observations, in substance, of Mons. Hænke.

The word Cochabamba, in the Quechua dialect, means rich grass, and the territory is aptly named. This intendency contains no provinces, and has no tributary Indians. Its population is about 115,000.

In descending from the cold and lofty plains of Oruro, the green verdure begins to appear when you enter the vale of Arque, where is experienced an atmosphere which is loaded with fragrance; and in passing through this valley you meet with a cluster of cottages and flour mills, embosomed among the most beautiful fruit and forest trees. At a distance of thirty miles from Arque stands the city of Oropesa, or Cochabamba, (S. lat.  $18^{\circ} 31'$ .) the capital of the intendency. It is situated in a beautiful plain near the river Sacabo. The roads leading into the city are planted with lofty forest trees, resembling the finest avenues of Versailles. The city is square, and the streets, which are spacious, cross each other at right angles. It contains five convents and two nunneries; the former have extensive gardens, which are well cultivated, and the fruit orchards abound with fine fruit. The population of the city is about 25,000.

The inhabitants of this intendency consist principally of Mestizos and Cholos, and they are strikingly different from the population of the other provinces, being fairer and taller, and generally better made. The fairness of their complexion is certainly a phenomenon, the cause of which I cannot explain. They are industrious farmers, skilful me-



chanics, and possessed of superior intelligence to their neighbours; and during the bloody scenes of the present revolution, they have distinguished themselves as intrepid soldiers.

The eastern section of the intendency is called Valle Grande, which is a most productive district. The inhabitants are almost all farmers, who raise great quantities of wheat, which is sent to the markets of La Paz and Potosi, and the other cold countries; and cotton also is cultivated in great abundance, which is declared to be of a very superior quality. They cultivate flax also in great quantities, but make no other use of it, except to extract the oil from the seed. This oil is a great article of consumption in the churches, being used to supply the lamps, which in those holy places are kept constantly burning. The farmers of this intendency rear a breed of horses equal in beauty and strength to the famous Chilian horses, and also vast numbers of asses. The products of this country are carried to market on the backs of asses; they have no other means of transportation, carriages being entirely unknown. Great numbers of asses are employed in this business; they are loaded with huge panniers or baskets, into which the goods are put, and they are then turned loose in the street, and driven along in caravans of 2 or 300. In this way are carried to La Paz, a distance of 240 miles, in great abundance, fowls, turkeys, bread, pastry, sweetmeats, and even eggs.

After the farmers, the next principal class of the population are manufacturers. Of the cotton, there were manufactured into cloth, in the city of Oropesa, in 1799, 1,500,000lbs. which was all consumed in the country, and which sells at the rate of from 4 to 10 shillings per yard. Since that year, the quantity has considerably increased, and in the late European wars Cochabamba and Cuzco supplied the



whole country with manufactured goods. There are manufactories of glass bottles on the Rio Grande, and of earthen ware, which are rude and coarse indeed, but which are carried on to a considerable extent. They have also manufactories of glue, and they are acquainted with the art of dyeing. During the revolution, they supplied themselves with muskets of their own manufacture, made from a composition of copper and lead. They have some machinery, but all of their own invention.

There is but one mine here, which is that of *Choque-camata*, or *bed of gold*, which was formerly rich, but has been abandoned.

The people of this country rarely ride; indeed they are so much accustomed to walking, that it is reported of one, who having mounted an ass, and undertaking to count the number of his drove, forgot to reckon that on which he was seated, and supposed he had lost one.

The fruits of Cochabamba and Urubamba in Cuzco, are certainly the finest in the world. Of peaches they have 10 or 12 different species: some so delicate, that they will not bear transportation; they are like a syrup in the mouth, and possess a deliciousness of flavour, which I shall not attempt to describe. Sweet and sour oranges, wild and cultivated, are found throughout the whole country, on the east of the Cordilleras, from Cochabamba to Lima; also, pine apples, bananas, lemons, pears, apples, plums, figs, grapes, olives, and in short, all the fruits of the old and new continent. Oranges are produced all the year round, the same tree exhibiting at the same time, flowers and ripe fruit. There are also great varieties of fruits peculiar to the country; *chirimoyas*, which are exquisitely delicious, *bananas*, *granadillas*, *pacays*, &c. The trees which bear the *chirimoya*, are of the size of the apple tree, and the blossoms are wonderfully fragrant.



Besides the fruits of this district, there are innumerable flowering shrubs, which perfume the atmosphere; and great varieties of garden stuffs, kitchen vegetables, &c.

I shall be more minute in my description of the productions of this and the other provinces, after I have concluded my geographical survey of the country.

---

## LA PAZ.

THIS intendency is bounded on the north by the country of the Amazons, and the intendency of Cuzco in Low Peru; on the west by those of Puno, or Chucuito, and Arequipa; on the south by Potosi and Charcas, and on the east by Cochabamba and Moxos. Its population is about 110,000, without including Indians. The western section of this intendency is an extensive plain bordering on the eastern shore of the great lake Titicaca. The climate is cold, on account of its proximity to the Cordilleras, and its productions are principally potatoes and barley. The eastern part includes the eastern Cordillera, and its declivities, together with those fertile plains which extend towards Moxos and Cochabamba. Of this Cordillera, the highest peaks are those of Ancomayo, or hoary head, in the north, and Illimani in the south, distant about 100 miles from each other. The figure of Illimani is pyramidal, resembling in many points the famous peak of Chimborazo, and it probably belongs to the same chain of mountains. Its top, in the dry season, is visible a distance of 150 miles: in the rainy season it is enveloped in clouds. The appearance of these mountains is won-



derfully grand, and particularly when seen in the night time from the city of La Paz, situated in the valleys below, at a distance of thirty miles. You behold a lofty barrier of mountains, stretching from north to south, with almost an uniform elevation, as far as the eye can reach, with summits crowned with perpetual snows the whole extent, except at the pass of Chulumani; and the sublimity of the view is softened into beauty, when you contrast their hoary summits with the green verdure of the forests on their eastern declivities, and the fertile valleys at their base.

The two points of Ilimani and Ancoma on the east, from the source of the river Beni, one of the branches of the Amazon; on the west their waters run into the lake Titicaca.

This intendency is divided into six lesser provinces or sub delegations, to wit, Cica Cica, Pacages, Omazuegos, Larecacha, Apolobamba, and Chulumani. Of these provinces the three first are situated on the west, and are cold and unproductive, but abundant in metals.

The province of Cica-Cica has its chief town of the same name. It is bounded on the west by the coast of Arica, and extends 75 miles from north to south, and 120 miles from east to west. Its population is about 25,000. This province is laid down erroneously in all the maps. There are here rich silver mines, and in the village of Ayoayo there is a salt spring, from which are produced vast quantities of salt, and of the finest quality.

The province of Pacages lies north-west of Cica-Cica; its chief town is Caquiavire. Its extent from east to west is 168 miles, and from north to south 120 miles. It is separated from the coast of Arica by the western Cordillera. There are in this province 70 mines of silver which are worked; there is also a mine of emeralds. In the village of Be-



renguela there is a quarry of fine alabaster, which is beautifully transparent. It is frequently used for window lights, and particularly in the churches; and splendid jet d'eaux were constructed of it by the Jesuits of La Paz; and the upright pipes are so transparent as to exhibit the water as it ascends through them. Talc is also found here in abundance.

In the village of Tiaguanaco are situated the ruins of a palace of the Incas, which are now little more than huge stones piled one upon another.

The province of Omazuegos is bounded by Larecaja on the north-west, by Chucuito on the west, by Pacages on the south, and by the Cordillera on the east. It extends 120 miles from north to south, and from 48 to 60 miles from east to west; the chief town is Hachacache, 54 miles north-west of La Paz. Near this place is a famous wall of stone, which extends from the top of the Cordillera to the shore of the lake Titicaca, a distance of about 30 miles; commencing at the verge of the snows on the mountain, and losing itself in the lake. It was, no doubt, a work of the Incas; but its object has never been explained. Its height at present is uniformly about four feet; it has suffered very little injury from time. About 8 miles south of this wall are situated a cluster of Indian cottages, which must have been erected also in the times of the Incas. They are constructed of stones, neatly fitted together, and the doors, or entrances, are observed to be remarkably small. There are some buildings among them which are higher than the rest: perhaps 40 feet high and which resemble towers. These are not built of stone, but of a kind of cement, the composition of which is not known, and upon which the operations of the element have made no impression. They are round, without doors, and are supposed to have been tombs. These monuments of the Incas are as



indestructible as those of the ancient Romans, and are constructed after their fashion.

In this province is situated the village of Capacavana, which is a consecrated place; where the devout catholics, even from Lima and Salta, resort to pay their worship to the *virgin Capacavana*. The church is fine, and constructed of stone, according to the regular rules of architecture. The riches of the church it is impossible to calculate. It has a chandelier of silver, with 365 branches, one for every day of the year. The virgin is placed on a wheel, which turns round to present her divine countenance to every part of the church. She is covered with diamonds, pearls, and precious stones, and every sort of rich jewelry, which is accumulated by the donations of the devotees. All this wealth is shamefully dissipated by the monks of St. Augustine, who have the custody of the virgin, and who have a convent in the place. This situation is much sought for by the ecclesiastics all over the country, as it affords them a fine opportunity for thieving.

In this province there are several mines of silver; also of quicksilver, in a mountain called Coabilque, near the Estancia de Carbiza. This mine, when it was first opened, afforded great quantities of quicksilver, but it awakened the narrow jealousy of the vice-royalty of Lima, within which it was then included, and the working of it was prohibited, in order that the government might enjoy the monopoly of the mine of Huancavelica. In Spanish America the court of Madrid reserves to itself the exclusive right of selling mercury to the miners, and the quantity of silver produced depends very much upon the quantity and price of this article. In several other parts of this province, in Pucurani and Guarina, quicksilver has been found. The bottom of the mountains in this province is full of silver mines, but one only is worked.



The great lake Titicaca is situated on the west of this province. It lies 30 miles west of the city of La Paz, and the intervening country is a level plain. This lake is about 240 miles in circumference; its medium width is about 30 miles, and its principal direction is north-west and south-east. It contains several beautiful islands, which are fertile, producing corn, barley, potatoes, &c.

The north part of the lake is mild and temperate, and Orurillo, and other villages, on the northern extremity exhibit some lofty trees, and considerable vegetation. The shores of the lake are fertile, except in the immediate vicinity of the Cordilleras, where the climate is cold, and the soil comparatively unproductive. The temperature depends altogether upon the proximity of the snowy mountains. On leaving the base of the mountains, you find a sensible increase of heat, in travelling even three miles. The borders of the lake are beautifully picturesque, and covered with villages and cultivated fields.

This lake abounds with fine fish, particularly the *Bogelia*, and on its shores and islands are found great numbers of water fowl of various species.

Nature has pointed out this great body of water as the channel of an extensive commerce among the interior provinces, and between them and the ocean, but it has been neglected. From the western shores of this lake to Arequipa it is 75 miles, and from that city to the ocean 60 miles; making the whole distance to the ocean 135 miles; and although there is nothing but a mule road at present, it might easily be made into a good carriage road, as the Cordillera here is much broken. The mode of transportation is altogether on the backs of mules: these animals attain an extraordinary size on the coast, and they will carry 400 weight each, travelling unshod over



the rough roads, with great expedition, and without stopping to feed, for a distance of 36 miles.

At present the lake is not at all navigated, except by the Indians in their canoes for the purpose of fishing. On the south, it has, as I have before stated, the outlet of the river Desaguadero, which empties into the lake of Paria, within 130 miles of Potosi. The lake of Titicaca and this river, together, afford navigable waters for a distance of 262 miles, and they lie directly in the route from Buenos Ayres, by Potosi, to Lima and the Pacific ocean; and at the distance of 40 miles up the river from Paria, stands the city of Oruro, the center of the inland commerce of the Provinces.

The province of Larecaja is situated north of the city of La Paz. It extends from east to west 354 miles, and from north to south 90 miles. This province begins at Ancoma, the north peak of the Cordilleras, and extends north to the province of Carabaya in Low Peru. It is very irregular and mountainous, full of impetuous rivers which form the source of the river Beni, one of the principal branches of the Amazon. Its chief town is Zorata, situated at the bottom of the Cordilleras, and which contains 10 or 12,000 white inhabitants, who are principally engaged in working the gold mines of the province. The whole province contains 32 small towns or villages; the climate is varied, according to the elevation of the mountains, but is generally temperate; the rivers are uncommonly rapid and boisterous in their course, and full of cataracts. The ridges of the mountains as you go north from Ancoma, are full of mines of gold, and in the villages of Ananea and Yani there are rich mines which are worked. It is a remarkable fact in the geological history of this territory, that the gold mines commence at Ancoma (lat. 15° S.) and only occur as you travel north and east; while to-



wards the south is situated the region of silver. The peak of Ancoma, like the equator, divides this metallic region into two hemispheres, that of gold on the north and silver on the south.

The gold in the mines is found embedded in white and blue quartz, and frequently combined with other metals. It is frequently found united with silver, and the miners do not understand the mode of separating them. The price of this gold is less than that obtained by the washings, and commonly varies from 12 to \$14 per ounce.

The mode of separating the gold is very similar to that employed at Potosi, in extracting the silver from its ores; but the operation is much more rude and slovenly. The ores are in the first place broken into small pieces, and then ground to a powder, which is mixed with quicksilver until it forms an amalgam, and the quicksilver is then evaporated, leaving the metal, which is cast into ingots.

In this province, and the neighbouring province of Carabaya, in Low Peru, are the famous rivers where the pure washed gold is found, and of which I shall particularly speak.

In crossing the Cordilleras to the east, at the distance of 36 miles from Ancoma, you meet with the source of the river Tipuani, which afterwards takes the name of Beni. This river pours down from the Cordilleras like a torrent, and flows with an impetuous and roaring current the distance of 120 miles, through the narrow defiles of the mountains, in a northwardly direction, to the village of Tipuani. In descending from the Cordilleras the distance of 20 miles, you enter a region where trees and vegetation begin to appear; and as you proceed northward you find a country covered with thick forests, wild barley, bananas, sugar canes, and all the various productions of the Amazons; with birds of every variety of plumage, and innumerable mon-



keys. The roads here are extremely rough, and impassable except on foot, or on the backs of mules.

On the banks of the river Tipuani are found abundance of gold in the most extraordinary manner, and in wonderful purity, it being  $23\frac{1}{2}$  carats,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  carat finer than the standard of the United States coin. The gold is commonly found in little grains of the size of barley corns, but sometimes in large lumps. The miner sinks a large shaft, close by the edge of the river, and until he meets with a pan of slate, which is called *Penna*; the water is then taken out by the Indians with buckets, one standing above another. This is a most tedious and expensive operation, and frequently occupies two or three months of the dry season. The Indians receive for this service six shillings a day, and there are frequently 200 employed in one mine. After the water is thrown out, galleries are dug in different directions, according to the course of the metal; and in these the gold is found, mixed with a hard blue clay, which is all taken out together. The gold is found every where on the banks of the river; I have frequently seen the experiment tried, and never knew it fail. This gold and clay together are put into a canal constructed with slate, and whose bottom is an inclined plane, into which a current of water is introduced, which washes away the clay and earthy particles, and leaves the heaviest particles of the gold behind, which are collected and put into sacks, and carried to La Paz, where they are cast into plates or ingots of 4lbs. each, and which are worth \$1,000. The light grains are washed away by the water, and are afterwards picked up by the poor people, who sometimes employ quicksilver for the purpose. The workmen employed in the mines depend more upon their opportunities for thieving than upon their regular wages as a compensation for their services. They have a dexter-



ous mode of throwing bits of gold into their mouths as they pick them up, in which way they collect a good deal of gold, in spite of the vigilance of the overseers, of whom there is one appointed over every 50 workmen.

When the banks of the river are very high, canals are dug to drain off the water, and rocks are sometimes found upon the surface of the ground, which are removed by blasting with powder, and which is a very expensive operation.

Provisions in Tipuani are very dear, being brought a distance of 2 or 300 miles; there is no agricultural industry carried on here, although the country is the most fertile in the world. Brandy is much drank; it is an article of prime necessity among the miners, and is sold at a very high price.

In conducting these *lavaderos* or washings, every operation is carried on in the most expensive, rude, and slovenly manner, and machinery is entirely unknown. The expenses of working a mine are frequently \$14,000 in three months, and when we add to this the quantities of gold which are pilfered by the workmen, it is evident that the mines could never be worked with profit unless the product was very large. According to the official reports of the *Balanzario* at La Paz, where the gold is registered, the annual product from this river is 35,200 ounces; this does not include the quantity appropriated to private ornaments, nor that which is not registered by the proprietors, or which is pilfered by the workmen. In the neighbouring province of Carabaya, in which the river is of the same character, and the gold of the same carats, the amount which has been registered, according to Alcedo, is \$33,000,000. This gold is never sold for less than \$16 an ounce.

These mines were worked in the times of the Incas, who appear to have been well acquainted with the richest mines in the country. There are



frequently found near these mines, tools of copper and tin, which belonged to them. Their routes from the mines were straight across the mountains to their capital.

The miners here, like all others, have their alternations of wealth and poverty. They are frequently extremely rich. There were, a few years since, two Portuguese, named Suares, who opened a mine which yielded them vast quantities of gold. They had many boxes filled with this precious metal stored away in their houses. They fell in the revolution of Tupac Amaru, and all their gold was dissipated; but after the troubles were over, the Indians returned to their sons \$60,000 a piece, which had been saved.

The gold is conveyed from Tipuani in sacks of skin, which are carried to La Paz on the backs of Indians, and with perfect security from robbery, through the thick forests; the usual load for an Indian carrier is 5 arobas, (125 lbs.)

The rivers Challana, Suches, and Vilaque, which rise in the same chain of mountains, unite at Tipuani, and form the great river Beni. There are also *lavaderos*, or gold washings, on these rivers, where the metal is found in abundance.

The town of Tipuani is situated on the northern extremity of this province, and here the river, as it assumes the name of Beni, loses its rapid course, and flows with a smooth and even current towards the east. Here the river is more than a mile wide, with sufficient depth of water to float vessels of considerable burthen. The Indians come to this town in their canoes, carrying 20 or 30 Indians, from the country of Moxos, and the establishments of the Missions, three or four hundred miles down the river. There is no doubt that from the town of Tipuani, the river of Beni, and the Amazon, with which it unites, are navigable to the Atlantic Ocean.



In the revolution of Tupac Amaru, Estrada, a citizen of Zorata, fled from the country, and went down this river in a canoe to Reyes, a village of reduced Indians, where he got on board of a Portuguese vessel, and went to Spain, carrying with him immense treasures.

At Tipuani the country becomes level, and stretches off towards the north and east, into expanded plains covered with forests, and exhibiting gentle undulations of hills clothed in luxuriant vegetation. From the top of the mountain of Silla, near Tipuani, the view is entirely open towards the north and east. I do not imagine that a finer country can be presented to the human eye; and when we consider that in the neighbourhood are mines of gold, the richness of which has never been explored; that here are groves of costly woods, and forests of the finest timber trees, with a soil of great fertility, and capable of producing all the various productions of the east, not excepting the cinnamon and spices of the Indian Isles, and that all these things are seated at the head, and on the borders of waters navigable to the Atlantic Ocean, we must be satisfied that the brightest visions of fancy can scarcely portray the future riches of this favoured country; its importance to the commerce of the United States; the changes which will be wrought by its independence in the political economy of nations;—in short, the floods of wealth which will roll down the broad bosom of the Amazon and its tributary streams, to enrich the world!

The Indians who resort to Tipuani are those of Reyes, Mapiri, and Lecos, villages recently reduced by the friars of St. Augustine. These people are much fairer than the other natives of this country, are neat in their apparel, and cleanly in their persons, using frequent ablutions. They have manufactories of curious fabrics made of the bark of a



tree common in the country, probably the paper mulberry. The bark is pounded fine, dissolved in water, and sized with some resins of the country, and is then made into a fabric resembling coarse paper, and which is made in a similar manner. This fabric is used for the various purposes of clothing. They also manufacture a stuff of the wild cotton, which is produced in abundance in their forests. Another kind is made of the plumage of beautiful birds, interwoven with twine. They also make a species of tapestry, not unlike the hangings of the parliament house of Great Britain, and in which is wove the figures of men and animals. Also combs of curious workmanship, of a kind of wood called *chonta*, which resembles ebony. Their skill in archery is truly surprising. I have seen them play with an orange, tossing it into the air, and hitting it with their arrows, and keeping it from the ground, for an hour together. They will hit a bird on the wing at a considerable distance, and with unerring certainty. Their arrows are tipped with the *chonta* wood, and in war are poisoned. These Indians are very fond of iron instruments, and will barter their beautiful fabrics for tools of any kind. Their character is generally mild and peaceable; they are entirely under the subjection of their friars. In the north part of this province are situated the villages of Consata and Charasani, inhabited by the famous pedestrians, of whom I have before spoken.

The province of Apolobamba is situated north of that of Larecaja, following the range of the Cordilleras. It is 240 miles from north to south, and 120 miles from east to west. This province is extremely rude and mountainous on the west; on the east it slopes off into extensive plains to the river Tuychi. Its population amounts to 30,000, and consists principally of civilized Indians. There are a few Spaniards and Creoles, who are proprietors of



large plantations. It contains eight small towns or villages, and its chief town is St. Antonio de Aten. The north-eastern part of this province borders on the country of the Amazons.

In this province there is an extensive cultivation of cocoa, which is equal to that of Sochonosco in Mexico, which is esteemed the best in the world. It is an article of great consumption among the people of this country; its price is \$1 a pound. Rice, cotton, wax, &c. are produced in abundance.

The province of Chulumani is situated east of the city of La Paz. It extends 150 miles from north to south, and 90 miles from east to west. It contains twenty small towns. Its chief town is Coroyco, situated on the east of the Cordillera. In this province are the *haciendas*, or plantations of *coca*, by which the whole country is supplied with this article. It is the tobacco of the Indians, used universally by them, but never by the whites. It is the leaf of a small tree, which is chewed. They are plucked in May and November, and sometimes three times a year, dried in the sun, then tied up in bundles of 22lbs. each, pressed, steeped in lye, and sent into the market for use. A bundle is worth from 8 to \$12. Its sales amount at least to \$4,000,000 annually at La Paz, and it constitutes a great branch of the trade of this city. Its taste is bitter; it is warming to the stomach, and a sudorifick to those who are not accustomed to it. It is an article of the first necessity to the Indian; he cannot labour without it, and prefers it to his food. Coffee is produced here, which is occasionally drank, but not so abundantly as chocolate, which is the universal morning beverage of the country. There are some vineyards here, but not very extensive. This province being almost exclusively devoted to *coca*, the provisions are brought from the neighbouring countries.



The city of La Paz, the capital of the Intendency, is situated in latitude  $16^{\circ} 30'$  south, 180 miles east of the Pacific coast. It was founded by the licentiate Gasca, after the battle of Guarina, at the period of the conquest. It stands on the site of an ancient Indian village, called in the Aymara dialect, *Choka-Yapoo*, meaning *farm of potatoes*, and not of *gold*, as some historians have asserted. The Aymara language was only spoken in this section of the country, an ignorance of which fact has led the celebrated Humboldt into an error when he says, "That from the plain of Tiahuanaco, situated between the cities of Cuzco and La Paz, descended numerous and powerful tribes, who carried their arms, *language*, and arts even to the northern hemisphere." And besides, the most fertile countries are not in the north, but in the south: to wit, Cochabamba, Tucuman, and Chili.

This city is sometimes known in that country under the name of Chookeago. It is situated in a hollow, considerably below the elevation of the plains which extend from the Cordilleras to the lake. You approach the town by a gradual descent of three miles, and the whole city stands before you, appearing "one red," the roofs of the houses being covered with red tile. The city is divided by the river Chookeago, which, rising in the Cordilleras, takes a southerly direction, bending round the base of Ilimani, and then runs north, until it unites with the Tipuani. In the city there are four stone bridges across the river. The streets are rectangular, paved, and of convenient width. The dwelling houses are principally built of stone, of two and three stories high; and many of them exhibit much taste and elegance in their structure. In the public square, there are some splendid edifices, and in the centre of the square stands a fountain of water constructed of transparent alabaster; and indeed there are



fountains at the corners of almost every street. There are five convents, three nunneries, and five parochial churches, and these convents and nunneries are extremely rich. In the nunnery of Concebidas, there is a figure of the sun, for exhibiting the host, made of gold and diamonds, and standing on a pedestal of solid gold of a yard and a half high. The rays of the sun are gold studded with brilliants. The cathedral is full of silver; the front of the altar even to the roof, is covered with this precious metal. The cups of the sacrament are of pure gold. The bells of the church are large; for ringing them at funerals, a duty is paid, which is \$100 when the great bell of the cathedral is tolled.

The literary institutions consist of one poor college; but what I must not omit—for it is creditable to the humanity and intelligence of the citizens—is an alms-house, where the poor are entertained. In traversing the streets, you as rarely meet a beggar as in the city of New York. This is the only institution of the kind to be found in South America.

The climate of La Paz is cold, although it is mild at a little distance from the city, as you recede from the Cordilleras. The city stands at the base of the lofty peak of Ilimani, which almost overlooks it, and whose snowy summit and verdant sides exhibit a fine view. This mountain seems obnoxious to thunder storms, which are frequent on its aerial top, and which at times greatly enhance its native sublimity. The plains surrounding the city are clothed in perpetual verdure, and are very fertile, supplying the city with potatoes, barley and vegetables. The markets of this city are reckoned the best in Upper Peru; the supply of fresh fish from the lake and the ocean, is constant and abundant: fruits are plenty at all seasons of the year: wines and brandies are supplied in abundance from the Pacific coast, sugar from Cuzco, and wheat from



Cochabamba. At a distance of 20 or 30 miles below the city, on the banks of the river, are some flourishing vineyards, producing red and white grapes, from which considerable quantities of wine are made. There is a great scarcity of fuel here; that which is used is charcoal, and not unfrequently the excrement of animals. It was one mile from this city that a mass of pure gold was found by an Indian as he was bathing in the river, which was valued at \$11,269. It was purchased by the viceroy Castelfuerte, and sent as a present to his sovereign.

The population of this city is about 40,000. In the rebellion of Tupac Amaru it suffered severely, but having recovered its ancient prosperity, its situation was such as I have described it in 1808. It was in this city that the fire of the revolution first burst forth, and here it has burned the brightest. Inhabited by a brave and high spirited people, many possessing splendid fortunes, and some of noble blood, it has been the scene of the most fearful and desperate struggles for independence. The hurricane of war, at one period, swept its population into the desert, where they fell either by famine or the sword. At another time, their wells of water were poisoned by infernal conspirators, and a barrack of patriot soldiers was treacherously blown up, and 300 men perished. It was this devoted town that the monster, Goyeneche, converted into a human slaughter house, butchering the miserable inhabitants with his own hands. Unhappy city of my birth! the period of thy sufferings is hastening to a close; already the thunder of war is dying away in the distance; brighter days begin to dawn upon thee, and soon shall thy deserted streets resound with the enlivening hum of business; and from the ashes of thy slaughtered heroes, there shall arise a people to



emulate their virtues, and to restore to thee more than all thy ancient splendour!

---

## SANTA CRUZ DE LA SIERRA, OR PUNO.

THIS intendency is bounded on the north by Chiquitos and Moxos; on the west by Charcas and Cochabamba; on the south by the Chiriguanos and other tribes of Indians, and on the east by Chiquitos. The population is 100,000. It is divided into two departments, Misque and Santa Cruz, from which the intendency takes its name.

The department of Misque is bounded by the Cordilleras on the north, by Cochabamba on the west, by charcas on the south-west and south, and by Santa Cruz on the east. Its climate is warm. The chief town, which is of the same name, stands in a fine valley of eight leagues in circumference, and its population amounts to 12000. This is an extremely fertile province, producing in great abundance, corn, sugar, grapes, bees-wax, and honey. Within this province is situated the lake of Xaraes, which is of considerable magnitude, and well stored with fish. Misque in former times was a town of some importance, but it has latterly fallen into decay: there being no mines in its neighbourhood, many of its inhabitants have removed to other places.

The province of Santa Cruz is situated east of Misque. The chief town, which is of the same name, and is the capital of the intendency, was founded by Chaves, one of the companions of Pizarro in 1560, in latitude  $18^{\circ} 4'$  south, but was afterwards, in 1575, removed to its present position



in latitude  $17^{\circ} 49' 44''$  south, and  $66^{\circ} 24'$  west longitude from Paris, at the foot of a small range of mountains, on the north of the intendency. Some of the inhabitants of the former town did not accompany the others in the removal, but constructed a barque, in which they sailed down the river Mamore, and thence into the Amazon, and finally arrived at Cadiz.

The productions of this province are the same as those of Misque, but the culture of them has been neglected. There are no mines in the province.

## MOXOS AND CHIQUITOS.

THESE provinces, which were established by the Jesuits, have been, since their expulsion, subjected to a military government. Moxos was conquered from savage tribes by the Incas, and made part of their great empire. It extends from north to south 360 miles, and nearly the same distance from east to west. It is bounded by the country of the Amazons on the north, by Cochabamba and La Paz on the west, by Chiquitos on the south, and on the east by the dominions of Brazil. This province is watered by three rivers, Beni, Mamore, and Santa Cruz, which take their rise in the eastern Cordillera, and flow into the Amazon.

There are in this province 15 villages, which are situated on the banks of the above mentioned rivers, and are regularly laid out. The houses are of wood. The population of the province is 22,000.

Chiquitos is separated from Moxos, on the north by the mountains of Tapacares: on the west it is



bounded by Santa Cruz de la Sierra, on the north by the forests of Zamucas, and on the east by savage Indians. It contains 10 villages, and has a population of about 20,000.

The two provinces of Moxos and Chiquitos extend from 14° to 20° south latitude, embracing a fine and fertile tract of country. In the province of Chiquitos there is a beautiful valley of 120 miles in extent. In almost every village, there are churches of regular architecture, richly decorated, and what is particularly worthy of mention, are the choirs of musical instruments in every church, such as organs, harps, violins, and which are played with admirable skill by the Indians, who are carefully taught sacred music by the friars.

In these Indian villages or missions, there are manufactories of superior cotton fabrics, such as calicoes, diapers, and a stuff resembling merseilles. The Indians are excellent cabinet-makers, making beautiful furniture out of the fine woods which are abundant in the country. They cultivate cocoa and coffee; make great quantities of white and yellow wax, which is an article of great demand for the churches. The king and the priests have all the profits of their industry: the government has a factory in the country, where all the manufactured goods and the products of the soil are collected, and from whence they are sent to Charcas and other markets to be sold.

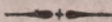
The climate of these provinces is like that of the East Indies, with half-yearly alternations of rainy and dry weather, and the productions are similar. Cinnamon is produced in abundance and when cultivated, is not inferior to that of Ceylon. The forests are full of balsamic, resinous, and odoriferous trees. Here are found Peruvian bark, vainilla, ginger, gum copal, and all sorts of resins and healing balsams. The forests of these provinces, and all



that is called *Montana real*, are the finest botanic gardens in the world. Birds are found of almost every variety, and of the most beautiful plumage: there being no unkind winter here to destroy them, or drive them into warmer latitudes. There are some beasts of prey, and snakes which are poisonous. The rivers and lakes abound with fish. Honey is collected in great quantities in the forests; and in the north part of Moxos, there is found the silk worm, but it is not cultivated; the mulberry, upon which it feeds, is a common tree of the country.

In short, throughout the whole range of these provinces, there is found all the variety of animal and vegetable productions, which are peculiar to the torrid zone in any region of the globe. Indeed, it is a sufficient eulogium upon the climate and the soil of these provinces, that they were selected by the Jesuits for the establishment of their missions.

The Indians who inhabit this country, are fairer in complexion and better made than those of any other province. By nature they are a noble race of men; but they have been prostrated by the united influence of the government and the church. They are subjected to odious servitude, and they have no other reward but their bare subsistence. Whatever they are taught is only with a view to enlarge their capacity to minister to the comforts and luxuries of their selfish and crafty oppressors. They are carefully kept ignorant of the Spanish language, of reading and writing, in order that their subjugation may be complete and perpetual.



## ARICA AND MOQUEGA

ALTHOUGH the provinces I have described are all that are included in Upper Peru, I deem it proper



to bestow some attention upon the adjacent Pacific coast, and the ports which it comprises, as they hold an important commercial relation with the interior provinces. The vast chain of mountains extending through this country, from Cape Horn to North America, is here called the western Cordillera of the Andes, and forms a barrier which divides what is called *La Sierra*, or the cold and lofty regions, from the temperate, or the coast. Along the Pacific coast, for an extent of 500 leagues from the deserts of Atacama towards the north, it never rains, nor is there any thunder or lightning. This singular phenomenon has established here a perpetual spring. A gentle mist or dew falls from May to September, to moisten and fertilize the earth, and water, for the uses of the inhabitants and their cattle, and for the purposes of irrigation, is abundantly supplied at all times from the Cordilleras. This tract of country along the coast, which is in width not more than 60 miles at any point, produces wheat, wine, oil, sugar, Indian corn, *agi* or Guinea pepper, and cotton. The principal productions are wine and oil; there are many vineyards and plantations of olives. Cotton is produced all the year round, the tree bearing both flowers and fruit at the same time; the annual yield here of the cotton tree is at least double that of the interior provinces, or of Asia, where one half the year there are constant rains, and the cotton is also much whiter from the same circumstance.

The principal ports of this coast, adjacent or nearest to the interior provinces of Upper Peru, are Pisco, in lat.  $13^{\circ} 45'$  S. long.  $76^{\circ}$  west from Greenwich; Camana, Mollendo, Quilca, lat.  $16^{\circ} 13'$  S.; Ilo,  $17^{\circ} 36'$  S.—this is a fine port, with good anchorage, Arica, lat.  $18^{\circ} 20'$  S.; Iquique, lat.  $20^{\circ} 7'$  S. From this port to that of Arica, the intervening coast is high and clear. The port of Iquique



is very commodious, affording good anchorage in a bay of about 6 miles long, with from 8 to 16 fathoms, and a fine sandy bottom. There is a small island in front of the town, and the usual place of anchorage is to the leeward of that, between two small rocks which appear above the water. Cobija, a port in the province of Atacama, in Upper Peru, is situated in lat.  $22^{\circ} 39'$  S. It is to these ports that the products of Arequipa, Cuzco, La Paz, Cochabamba, Potosi, and all the towns between the two Cordilleras, are carried. And in these ports, the English, during the late continental war, carried on a great traffic, in spite of the prohibitions of the Spanish laws.

I have already remarked that the metallic regions of this country are near the coast. The provinces of Arica and Moquegua are included in the intendency of Arequipa, in Low Peru, and extend 246 miles from north to south, and 48 miles from east to west. In this tract are situated the vallies of Moquegua, Locumba, and Tacna.

There are 52 villages in these provinces: the chief towns are Arica and Moquegua; the population is about 32,000 of whom there are 2821 negro slaves, and 1872 free negroes—the remainder are whites, Indians, and mulattoes.

Arica was formerly a considerable town, but it has declined; it contains at present about 3000 inhabitants. The houses are low, with flat roofs, which are mostly covered with mats. The principal production of this province is *agi*, or Guinea pepper, whose annual produce amounts to about 600,000 dollars.

The city of Moquegua is situated in the interior, about 50 miles east of the port of Ilo, in a valley extending from the coast, and further inland. It contains about 12,000 inhabitants. In its neighbourhood are produced annually about 400,000 gal-



lons of wine, besides considerable quantities of oil. The count of Alastaya resides here, who is a great proprietor of vineyards. The valleys of Locumba and Tacna also produce an equal abundance of wine. The wine is principally consumed in the country, and great quantities of it are manufactured into brandy, which is much drank.

There are produced here two varieties of wine, white and red, and of different qualities. The red wine, when kept in the cellars of the convents or of private gentlemen, for any considerable time, becomes of a fine quality, and is esteemed by connoisseurs equal to the wines of Spain. The price of these wines in La Paz, is 8 or 9 dollars for two arrobas (50 lbs.); it being sold by weight. The price of brandy is less. The mode of transporting these liquors into the interior is curious; it is carried in goat-skins, called *odres*, on the backs of mules. The skins are taken from the goats in the most barbarous manner: the animal is suspended alive by his horns—the skin is then loosened around the neck, and stripped off! The skin is afterwards dried, and partially tanned, then tarred on the outside, when it becomes fit to receive the liquor. Each *odre* will commonly hold from 20 to 30 gallons. The wine is preserved in the vaults of the churches, in large vats, or reservoirs, lined with clay, and which will contain many hogsheads: it is kept in this way thirty and forty years and longer; wooden casks are unused, and almost unknown.

The *agi* or Guinea pepper is an article in great demand, it is eaten by all classes of people. The price is from 4 to 85 for one aroba (25lbs.) The price of cotton is 10 or 12 shillings for an aroba. These are the prices at La Paz; they are much lower where the articles are produced, the expenses of transportation being very great. They are carried to market on the backs of mules and asses.



These animals are bred in Tucuman and are brought here young; they are fed on a species of tall grass, called *alfa-alfa*, which is very abundant, and upon which they fatten very fast, attaining to extraordinary strength and size. A considerable portion of the population of these provinces are muleteers.

The cochineal is found in its native state along the coast; this insect feeds upon the fruit of a small tree called *nopal* or *hygopal* (Indian fig tree,) and which is designated by some botanists under the name of *cactus opuntia maxima*, and by Linnæus under that of *cactus coccinellifer*. The Indians use this insect in dyeing the wool of the Llama and Alpacha, and which do not lose their brilliant and glossy appearance. The use of the cochineal as a dye-stuff, was known in the times of the Incas; there are fabrics and paintings at Cuzco, made in ancient times, which exhibit the same red colours, as are now produced by the cochineal. The Spaniards have entirely neglected its cultivation here, although the climate, there being no rains, is more favourable for its successful production than in Mexico, where, during the rainy season, the insects are obliged to be housed, or removed into districts, in which the rains occur at a different season of the year.

In the valleys of Tackna, situated a few leagues inland from the port of Iquique, there are many vineyards, and there is also a rude manufactory of glass. The vineyards and olive plantations in these provinces, are manured by a kind of yellow earth, called *huano*, which is supposed to be the excrement of sea birds. It is procured from two small islands, one situated near Arica, and the other in the bay of Iquique, which are inhabited by Indians and negroes. This earth is so fertilizing, that it is supposed to enrich the soil at least one hundred fold.

At a distance of about six miles from Iquique are situated the silver mines of Huantajaya, which



are surrounded with beds of rock salt. These mines furnish annually from 45 to 52,000 lbs. of silver. In 1758 and '89 there were found in the mines belonging to the family of colonel Loaysa, situated here, two lumps of massive silver, one weighing 200 and the other 800 lbs. There are also found in the mountains of Pico, in the neighbourhood, mines of silver and copper, and the latter in abundance.

Among the inhabitants of the coast, there are a great number of free negroes and mulattoes who are educated, and possess independent fortunes. The mulattoes are particularly distinguished for their vivacity and volubility. They are fond of learning, and boast of their noble blood and character. They have obtained from the king letters patent, conferring upon them the *dignity* and *title* of "Don," as they esteem it; and which, if omitted by any one in addressing them, he is immediately reminded of it by his donship. They are excluded from the professions of law and the church; they therefore generally apply themselves to physic, which they practice with more quackery than skill. They are frequently to be met with in the interior cities of Peru, boasting of their dignity and their knowledge. They are cowards in war, and prefer talking to fighting; they cannot endure cold, nor the hardships of a campaign. In the rebellion of Tupac Amaru, two or three regiments of this caste, in crossing the cold mountains from Lima on their march to Cuzco, were attacked by Indians early in the morning, and being benumbed by the cold, they were unable to use their muskets. They sent in a flag of truce to ask an armistice until the sun had risen, which was refused, and they were totally defeated.

I shall conclude my sketch of Upper Peru, by some additional remarks upon the mines, the climate,



soil, productions, and commerce of that interesting country.

The mines of gold and silver, occurring within 15° and 23° south latitude, are situated, at the following places:

#### GOLD WASHINGS.

Tipuani, Carabaya, Challana, Vilaque, and Chuquiaguillo.

#### GOLD MINES.

Yani, Ananea, Consata, Araca, Rinconada, Chiloco, Condo-Condo, Choque-camata, Pica, Cica-Cica, and Azangaro.

#### SILVER MINES.

Potosi, Lipez, Porco, Huantajaya, Aullagas, Caylloma, Charoma, Estarca, Lampa, Cerillos, Oruro, Popo, Chancani, Puno, Laycacota, Pica, Verenguela, Kinsachata, Huyana-Potosi, Chuquiaguillo, Carangas, and Pichegua.

There are mines of quicksilver at Pucarani and Guarina; and platina is found at Morocolo, in Low Peru.

The quantity of the precious metals extracted from these several mines it is impossible accurately to estimate: it has been stated at about \$14,000,000 annually. There are probably \$6,000,000 coined annually at Potosi and Lima, and which may be one third of the whole quantity of metal produced. M. Torres states, that the quantity of coin and bullion exported annually from Peru, amounts to \$8,240,000.

It may not be uninteresting here to bestow some remarks upon the influence of these metals upon national wealth and industry in Peru, and more especially, as some political writers of Europe main-



tain that the precious metals, far from being a useful production to South America, are the fruitful source of evils to that country; that its true interests would be to abandon its mines of gold and silver, and devote itself to agriculture and commerce; and that the working of mines of iron and copper, which they describe as things of intrinsic value, would be of greater utility. The celebrated Humboldt,—to whom the scientific world owe so many discoveries, and the South Americans, a rich tribute of gratitude for opening to the world the wonderful resources of their country,—has advanced these sentiments, and urged them upon the people of South America with no little zeal. I deem them, however they may be supported by weight of authority, to be clearly fallacious.

The precious metals, from remote antiquity to the present time, have been used by all civilized nations as the token or representative of wealth, the measure of value, and the instrument as well as an article of exchange. And their value consists not in their being in themselves objects of consumption, or articles of absolute necessity to the existence of man, but because all nations have, by common consent, agreed to recognise them as the universal standard and measure of property or things of value. This convention of nations creates a demand for them, and *demand is undoubtedly the ultimate and only permanent regulator of the exchangeable value of all commodities.* Some political economists, like the learned Adam Smith, do indeed assert that, "*labour is alone the ultimate and real standard by which the value of all commodities can be estimated.*" Labour, no doubt, is one of the sources of value or wealth, but it ought not to be confounded with productions which are in themselves valuable. There is certainly too much *laborious trifling* in the world, to admit of the correctness of the proposition



that "labour is the only and ultimate standard of value." But to prove this proposition to be false, we need only to refer to the celebrated writer last mentioned, where he says, "that the money price of labour is regulated by the demand for labour." So it seems that labour itself, which has just been called the *ultimate standard of value*, is still regulated, even in the opinion of Dr. Smith, by something else, which is *demand*. Labour is not, therefore, the last standard; but in order to arrive at that, we must proceed one step further, to wit, to demand. It is demand then, after all, that regulates the value of things. According to the vulgar axiom, and there is frequently much truth in the sayings of the vulgar, which are emphatically the concentrated wisdom of ages,—“a thing is worth what it will fetch.” Again, Humboldt says, that true wealth consists in the abundance of objects of consumption—in that of *things*, and not in the *sign* by which they are represented.” This is another fallacy, which is also supported by the high authority of Adam Smith; indeed, it is no doubt taken from his book, for he says that “real riches are in proportion to the quantity of *consumable goods* which any one may possess, or have money to purchase.” Why the wealth of this individual does not consist in his *money* as much as in the quantity of goods which his money will purchase, and why those goods must be *consumable*, or *objects of consumption*, I am at a loss to discover. According to my views of this subject, *wealth consists in abundance of exchangeable or demandable commodities*. If this is true, and also that demand regulates value, it is clear that gold and silver are articles of real value and component parts of wealth. There are certainly no articles known in society or commerce that are in greater demand than the precious metals—that men will endure so many hardships, or brave so many dan-



gers to obtain. The illustrious Locke, who thought upon this subject with the same correctness that he did upon every other of which he treated, "considered gold and silver as the most substantial part of the moveable *wealth* of nations."

There is also another palpable error in this proposition of Humboldt; he says that "gold and silver are only the *sign* by which things are represented." To measure value, is not the only office of the precious metals in effecting exchanges;—as a yard, for instance, is the measure of length. A given quantity of these metals is considered of equal value with the things exchanged; if I pay \$2 for a bushel of wheat, the seller esteems the cash at least of equal value to the wheat. The precious metals then, have an intrinsic value independent of the legal one which they possess as money.

If the precious metals are only *signs* of value, then are bank notes, or *paper promises*, equally as good a circulating medium; a proposition, which I apprehend few politicians of the United States will seriously maintain at the present time, but which has been confidently asserted, and has no doubt aided in no small degree in introducing into this country the paper money system, which is now producing so many evils.

That a demand for the precious metals will always exist, there can be little doubt, from their *utility*, *beauty*, and *scarcity*, according to Dr. Smith, but more than all, from the circumstance that they have been adopted by all civilized nations as a circulating medium—as a thing to exchange for every thing else. As long as luxuries, conveniences, nay, even necessities, are in demand, so long will gold and silver, which alone can procure them all, be in demand also—unless, indeed, something else is substituted in their stead as money, a thing not likely to



happen. Being the money of the world, the precious metals have become a real and substantial necessary of life to all classes of society: to the prince, to enable him to carry on the operations of his government; and to the private individual, to procure for him the necessaries and comforts of life. If not the immediate objects of consumption, they are the necessary agents by which those objects are procured. In the actual state of civilized life, they are objects of the first utility and necessity, as much so as the fire which warms you, or dresses your food. Besides, the precious metals are not only the instrument of commerce, but the inciting cause, the animating reward of all the industry and labour in the world. Man will not labour for mere conveniences: it is the hope of obtaining something beyond this, of surplus wealth, that stimulates him to overcome the inertiae of his nature, and to submit to the irksomeness of painful toil. The savage, who knows not the use of gold and silver, who is unacquainted with either conveniencies or luxuries, takes his scanty repast, just enough to satisfy the cravings of hunger, then wraps his blanket around him, and sleeps till hunger again returns to arouse and impel him to the chase: he is the rich man of the political economists; none have the necessaries of life in so great abundance as he. Dr. Smith says that "every man is rich according to the degree in which he can enjoy the necessaries of life." Then are we all rich, for which of us does not enjoy the necessaries of life?—and the rich are found in alms houses and hospitals as well as in splendid palaces.

The precious metals are not an artificial production like manufactures, which presuppose agriculture, but they are the natural productions of the soil of Peru and Mexico, which demand labour like any other production, like the wheat, tobacco, and



cotton of the United States, with this only difference, that they do not require seed or cultivation like the latter, but grow spontaneously in the earth. The value arising from that true test, the demand of gold and silver, induces the working of the mines, but as they cannot be worked without the articles of living being supplied to the workmen, it follows that the working of mines encourages agriculture, and enriches the agriculturist, who sells his surplus produce to the rich miners who want it; and hence the fact, that in Peru, the greatest markets are those in the vicinity of the mines. The mines in some measure supply the want of commerce, to this country, which has always been prohibited by the government. We behold populous and wealthy cities rising up in the interior of the country, in inhospitable climates, and on a barren soil, in the vicinity of gold and silver mines. What would have been the situation of Peru, no matter how fine the climate, or how productive the soil, if it had no mines, or they had never been worked!

It may happen that the precious metals may be sent into the world in great abundance, as was the case on the discovery of America, and the demand decreasing, they may decrease in value. If this should occur, it will operate in favour of the agriculturist of Peru, or of that country where the increase begins, as by obtaining more metal for his produce, he will be able to purchase greater quantities of conveniencies and luxuries; many things which before he could not obtain, will be within his reach, and the sphere of his comforts and enjoyments will be enlarged; having more money, he will be able to command a greater amount of the labour, or of the products of the labour, of other nations. This is too obvious to require illustration; and by increasing the quantity of the precious metals in



Peru, the amount of its national wealth will be increased.

It is preposterous to pretend that it will be impolitic for Peru to work its mines, the rich products of which are as much its natural productions as Peruvian bark or Cochineal, and by which foreign commerce will be most powerfully attracted to its shores: and it is to an extended intercourse with foreign nations that this country must look for advancement in knowledge, industry, arts, and civil and religious liberty.

In Europe it may indeed be true that agriculture is the only fountain of its prosperity, because it furnishes the raw materials for manufactures which are the sources of its wealth; and I know not but the notions of political economy which I have been combatting may be applicable to that country, but the situation and interests of the new world are widely different. In South America, the mines are at present the only encouragement of agriculture and industry; in those parts which are the most distant from the mines, although the most fertile, the inhabitants are less wealthy; easily supplying themselves with the necessaries of life, here their industry ceases, and they are comparatively idle and indolent. But the people who dwell in the neighbourhood of the mines, become rich from selling the surplus produce of their soil, for the gold and silver of the miners, and they are enabled to enjoy, if not more of the mere necessaries, certainly more of the comforts and luxuries of life. Thus it is that the prosperity of agriculture in Peru keeps pace with the progressive augmentation of surplus wealth, or of gold and silver. And here I cannot but remark the absurdity of the idea of Dr. Smith, that the "mines of a country have no connexion with its industry."



The miners in Peru and Mexico are the patrons and supporters of the luxurious arts, like the princes of Europe. In the city of Mexico, which is full of wealthy miners, there are monuments of the arts, equal in magnificence to those of any city in the world; and if Peru does not exhibit the same grandeur, it is because that country has been more oppressed and ill governed than Mexico; and it is a fact that its governors, from the period of the conquest to the present day, have been the most ignorant of any in Spanish America.\*

Although the miners dwell in the most unfavourable climates, and on the most barren soil, still they rear habitations there, and build flourishing towns and populous cities; and even after the mines are exhausted and abandoned, the colony remains, the hardy inhabitant having become attached to the soil, no matter how rude it is, which gave him birth. After prosperity has departed, and subsistence itself become precarious, we find him clinging to the barren rock, and withering there, rather than be torn away. It is in vain to remind him how bleak the sky, how barren the soil, how tempestuous the climate—we find him rebuilding his weather-beaten cottage on the broken rock which the lightning had riven, or on the sand which the torrents had not entirely swept away, obstinately refusing to quit his native soil. In the neighbourhood of Potosi, Lipez, and Aullagas, we find a people dwelling on the verge of eternal snows, surrounded by the tenants of those inhospitable regions, the Vicunas and Guanacos, in small romantic cottages on the summits of the mountains; subsisting cheerfully on the milk of their goats and frozen potatoes, regardless

\* Pizarro could neither read nor write, and his successors have been generally in the same predicament.



of the tempest howling without, and of their lofty and exposed position.

Who can doubt that the fine and fertile valleys of Peru, "where the flowers ever blossom, the beams ever shine," will be populated, whenever the government shall secure to the citizen his rights, and shall encourage the emigration of enterprising foreigners?

---

## CLIMATE.

IN the progress of the preceding statements, I have spoken of the climate of particular districts of Upper Peru; I will now endeavour to present a general view of the climate of the whole country.

From the pass of Volcan, in the south, which is near the tropic, to the Cordillera of Vilcanota in the north, situated at  $14^{\circ} 30'$  south lat. the tract of country between the eastern and western Cordillera, is generally windy and cold, although some temperate and fruitful valleys intervene. This mountainous and rugged tract is called *La Sierra*; it is rich in metallic wealth, and in addition to the precious metals and quicksilver, there are mines of copper, tin, lead, and iron, in great abundance, and which are all worked except those of iron and quicksilver. The product of copper, tin, and lead, is abundant; these metals are used in the operations of mining, and the two former are exported in considerable quantities.

In this region there are frequent storms of rain and hail, and on the mountains, snow; thunderstorms are also frequent. The year is divided into only two seasons, the wet and the dry; the former



commencing in November and continuing to April, and the latter, or dry season, the remainder of the year; during this period there are no rains, and this is the winter of this climate, there being frequently frosts of considerable severity, and the ground being frozen so as to prevent cultivation. In the rainy months, potatoes, quinoa, oka, and other roots and grains, peculiar to the country, are cultivated, even on the table lands, and the declivities of the Cordilleras. The coldest weather which occurs in May and June, resembles the months of October and November in the northern states of North America; but fires are never lighted to warm apartments,—the same kind of dress is worn the year round, and cattle are never housed. The lofty regions are bare of trees: the table lands only exhibit a little stunted shrubbery, and a species of wiry grass, or rush, called *Heechoo*, which grows where nothing else will vegetate, and upon which the Vicunas and Guanacos feed. This rush is used by the Indians for roofing their cottages, and they make mats and ropes of the same substance. There is now a bridge over the river Desaguadero, on the main route from Lima to Buenos Ayres, the lengthwise, or string pieces of which consist of ropes of the size of cables made of this grass, resting upon the water, upon which canoes are placed crosswise, and over these are strewed great quantities of flags, collected from the shores of the river and the lake. This bridge is repaired every year; it is said to have existed after the same fashion, from the times of the Incas.

In the valleys and ravines of this tract of country, the climate is temperate and the soil fertile; and, from their sheltered situation, vegetation is never interrupted by frost; they are profusely watered by the torrents which roll down the moun-



tains, and are well adapted to the production of luxuriant crops.

On the eastern sides of the eastern Cordillera, the climate is uniformly warm; the seasons are divided in the same manner as in the former tract, the rainy season commencing in November and continuing to April. There are here no frost or snow, and all the varieties of the climate consist in the graduations of heat, and in humidity and dryness. It is this part of Peru which possesses the finest climate; the province of Cochabamba is situated within this region, and here is Tipuani, celebrated for its gold, and for being seated at the head of the navigation of the Amazon.

On the west of the western Cordillera, or that of the coast, it never rains; the moisture of the earth is supplied from the torrents which descend from the mountains, and from the dews of Heaven. There is in this region some chilly weather; but the extremes of heat and cold are inconsiderable; there are here no thunder storms, but earthquakes are not unfrequent. There are some volcanic mountains in the range of the western Cordillera, but their fires seem to have expired; they have emitted no flames for many years. At the base of a mountain near the valley of Locumba, there are hot springs, impregnated with sulphur. This region along the coast, possesses a mild and genial temperature; its soil is suited to the cultivation of all the tropical fruits, and its valleys are celebrated for producing the finest grapes.

The healthfulness of the climate of Peru, is much and deservedly extolled; in some of the ports of the Pacific coast, the fever and ague prevails, but acute diseases are almost entirely unknown. The Indians, who live a temperate life, attain very generally to an advanced age. Peru has been called the country of old men.



## SOIL AND PRODUCTIONS.

I now proceed to speak more minutely of the mineral, vegetable, and animal productions of this country.

*Mineral Substances.*

Alum, (three kinds, epsom salts, glauber salts, nitre, or salt petre, soda, native verdigris, orpiment of Peru, salt, blue vitrol, vitriolated tartar, magnesia.

*Native Alum.*—There are three kinds of native alum found in this country, and which are called *cachina blanca*, or *white cachina*, *milllo*, and *colquenillo*, or *yellow cachina*. Here nature offers this substance ready formed to your hands, and in the greatest purity; while in Europe it can be only obtained by tedious and expensive processes. The *cachina blanca*, is found abundantly on the frontiers of La Paz, embedded in masses of slate or argillaceous schistos. The *milllo* is found plentifully in the deep defiles on both sides of the Cordilleras. It appears upon the slate or schistos rocks in the dry season, in a state of efflorescence, forming a crust of pure alum, which nature has perfectly combined, and made ready for the use of the manufacturer in his most delicate operations. Although found amorphous, it may easily be crystalized by the most ordinary chemical processes.

The third species, *Colquenillo*, is found in great abundance, in beds on the borders of the Provinces of Porco and Chayanta, and combined with sulphate of copper. Its matrix is schistos; its colours as it appears in nature, is diversified with shades of white and yellow. This sort is particularly prized by manufacturers on account of its excess of sulphuric acid.



*Green Vitriol. (Sulphate of iron.)* This substance is found in the greatest abundance, in the town of Tarapacha, in the Province of Carangas. It is found in its native state in the dry season.

*Epsom Salts. (Sulphate of magnesia.)* These salts are found in great quantities in their native state in masses of slate, and sometimes united with *millo*, particularly on the eastern sides and summits of the Cordilleras, and in the ravines formed by the rivers Pilcomayo and Cachimayo.

*Glauber Salts. (Sulphate of soda.)* This substance is found in the dry season along the road from Cuzco to Potosi and Jujui. It is found in the shape of a crust, efflorescing from the earth, and a person may collect great quantities in a short time; an Indian will collect 150 lbs. in a day, with the copper vessel in which he keeps his *Chicha*.

*Pure Nitre.* The vast abundance in which this valuable substance is found in Peru is truly astonishing. It occurs in its native pure state; and is fit for commerce without the aid of any chemical process. It abounds on the tops and sides of the hills; and besides, there are many plants which yield it abundantly by laxivation.

*Native Soda.* This salt is found in great plenty and purity throughout the whole country; in the plains bordering on the lake Titicaca, in Paria and Oruro, and in the valleys of Cochabamba. This is an important article of commerce; in Europe it is produced from the combustion of sea plants, but in Peru it is found in its native state.

*Native Verdigris (Sub-acetate of Copper.)* This mineral substance is found in the copper mines of Carangas, Lipez, Atacama, and other Provinces. The price here is from 2 to \$3 for 25 lbs.; while the artificial verdigris sells for \$1 a pound.

*Orpiment of Peru (a Suphuret of Arsenic.)* A species of yellow paint, much esteemed, consisting



of arsenic combined with sulphur; it is found in the different mines of the Cordillera of the coast, and in the Province of Carangas. This is an important article in dyeing, and from it the arsenic of commerce may be easily obtained.

*Common Salt.* This country contains immense deposits of this salt. The ravines in the dry season exhibit immense quantities of it crystalized in a high state of purity; and it is also found in large veins in the rocks, and of the same excellent quality. There are inexhaustible mines of it in the settlement of Yocalla, near Potosi, from which the miners of that place are supplied; and also in the Province of Yamparaes and other places.

All the foregoing substances are produced ready formed to your hand, without the aid of art; indeed Peru, from its position under a tropical sun, its long rains and continued droughts, seems a vast laboratory, where that great chemist, nature, carries on her operations on the grandest scale, and leaves little for man to do.

*Blue Vitriol (Sulphate of Copper.)* This substance is found in its native state, but in very small quantities; but by combining sulphur and copper, which are abundant all over Peru, it may easily be produced.

*Vitriolated Tartar (Sulphate of Potash.)* This substance may be obtained by a very coarse chemical process in this country.

*Magnesia.*—Is easily obtained by decomposing Epsom salts, which yield about 40 per cent. of white magnesia.

#### *Vegetable Substances.*

I. MEDICINAL. Gumi Arabic, camphor, hāmahama, tanitani, arnica of the Andes, guachanca, quinquina, jalap, rhubarb, sarsaparilla; gums copal, storax, tragacanth, myrrh, guaicum and benzoin, frankin-



cense, balsams of copaiva, Peru, and tolu, gentian, aloes, cullen, (*proralea grandulosa*,) calaguala, (*prolipodium canceolatum*) chanchalagua, (a species of gentian,) vira-vira (*graphalum vira-vira*,) chamico, azarguero, ipecachuana, cinnamon, and a variety of bitumens and resins.

*Gum Arabic.* This substance is produced from the most common trees of the country, but nobody takes the trouble to collect it. The trees which yield it are of the same species with those from which it is obtained from Egypt and Arabia.

*Camphor.* I know not that the real *laurus camphora* grows in the forests of Peru, but there are many trees of this country which are impregnated with this substance, and from which it may be abundantly obtained by sublimation. These trees occur in the ravines of the eastern Cordillera; and at Arque in Cochabamba the odour of camphor may be perceived at a great distance.

*Hamahama.* A species of *valerian*, which is found abundantly in the Cordilleras; there is also another species, *valeriana catacata*, which is found on the summits of those mountains.

*Quinquina, (Cinchona, Peruvian bark.)* There are several kinds of this bark produced in Peru, but the principal are the pale, the yellow, and the red. This important article in the *Materia Medica*, is found only in Peru. The trees from which it is taken, are found in the eastern borders of La Paz, and in all the Provinces of the eastern Cordillera; they are slender and straight, rarely exceeding ten feet in height, and are about the size of a man's leg. They never occur in clusters, but are thinly scattered throughout the forests; they are cut down by the Indians, and the bark is peeled off. The bark is collected principally by the Indians.

*Cinnamon.* This valuable substance is abundant in the regions east of the Cordilleras, in the neigh-



bourhood of Tipuani, on the borders of the sources of the Amazon, and in the Provinces of Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Moxos, and Chiquitos. In its uncultivated state, the only way in which it occurs here, it is equal to the oriental cinnamon, except that it may be somewhat thicker. It is not made an article of commerce in Peru.

II. ECONOMICAL. Tar, yellow wood of Santa Cruz, churisiqui, molle and tola, chapi, rocou, or Brazil wood, airampo, and indigo, cocoa, tobacco, coffee, cotton, potatoe, banana, oka, quinoa, agi, agave, vainilla, alspice, wax, chonta, mahogany, lucma, ginger, olives, grapes, palms, tamarinds.

Many of these substances are dye stuffs, such as the *yellow wood of Santa Cruz*, *chapi*, and *airampo*, the former for dyeing yellow, and the two latter, red.

*Lucma* and *chonta* are fine woods used in cabinet work. The *laucma* yields a delicious fruit, and the *chonta* is equal in colour, in fineness of texture, and solidity, to ebony. It is impossible for me to enumerate the many fine woods which abound in the extensive forests of this country, for they have never been explored by civilized man. The lower declivities of the Cordilleras are heavily timbered, but it is in the forests extending from Cochabamba and Tipuani, east and north, that the trees of the largest size are found, and some of which, I should imagine, are well adapted to ship-building. The pine and cedar are common trees of the country. Odoriferous and flowering shrubs are abundant. These forests are a mine of botanical riches, but such is the non-chalance of the Spaniards, that they have never been explored, except by the Indians, in pursuit of coca, or game.

*Airampo*.—Is a species of the *cactus* upon which the cochineal feeds. It is a prickly shrub producing red berries.



*Indigo.* This valuable substance is found in great abundance in La Paz, in Cochabamba, and Santa Cruz de la Sierra, but it has never been cultivated.

*Cocoa.* This is found in Moxos, in Apolobamba, at the foot of the last chain of mountains in descending the eastern Cordillera.

*Coca.* This substance is the tobacco of the Indians, and resembles the *betel* of the East; its botanical name is *erythroxylum Peruvianum*.

*Tobacco.* Is cultivated in several parts of the country, but under royal authority. Its general cultivation was interdicted by the Spanish laws.

*Cotton.* The provinces on the east of the eastern Cordillera, are the most favourable countries in the world for the production of this valuable substance; particularly Cochabamba, in the valleys extending from Arque to Valle Grande.

*Potatoe* (*papa* in the *Quechua* language, and *choke* in the *Aymara*.) This important vegetable is a native of America, and is believed to be an indigenous production of Peru. There are produced in this country several kinds of potatoe; one a long kind, of which *chunu* is made. This substance is made by first freezing the potatoes, then pounding them, and drying them in the sun. It is esteemed a delicate food, and can be preserved many years. There is another potatoe which is yellow, like the yolk of an egg, and of fine flavour. There is another kind, which is of a pink colour, and is also excellent food.

*Banana.* To this fruit some politicians have attributed the indolence of the Spanish colonists, and have even suggested that its cultivation ought to be prohibited. It is easily cultivated; its yield, on a given quantity of ground, is estimated to be to that of potatoes as 44 to 1; and besides it is extremely nutritious. It is cultivated in the eastern Cordillera.



*Oka* (*oxalis tuberosa*.) A sweet root, growing in the cold and barren soils, and an important article of human food in Peru.

*Quinoa* (*Peruvian rice*.) An important grain as an article of food, and of it and Indian corn is made *chicha*, the beer of the Indians.

*Agi* (*Guinea pepper*.) Called by the Indians *oochoo*, and by botanists *capsicum baccatum*; its pods are one quarter of a yard in length; it is produced abundantly on the coast.

*Agave*. This substance, so valuable in Mexico, is not at all cultivated in Peru. In Mexico, a fermented and much esteemed liquor resembling cider, is made of its juice. Its cultivation is very profitable. It is found in the cold and lofty regions of the Cordilleras.

#### *Animal Substances.*

Sal ammoniac, wool, cochineal, furs, plumage.

*Sal ammoniac*. This substance is ranked among animal substances on account of its being most commonly procured from animal matter. The Indians dwelling on the summits of the Andes, admit their domestic animals, the Llama and Alpacha, into their cabins, where they are fed and housed; and from the scarcity of fuel in those sterile regions, they burn the excrement of these animals. From the ashes of this substance thousands of quintals of sal ammoniac may easily be made, as these animals feed upon a grass strongly impregnated with salt, and which also constitutes a part of the fuel of the Indians.

*Wool*. Sheep are dispersed in great numbers all over the Cordilleras; and they contribute by their fleeces, milk, and flesh, to the comforts of the Indians who inhabit those inhospitable regions.

There are four distinct species of sheep peculiar to this country; the *lama*, the *alpacha*, or *paco*, the



*guanaco*, and the *vicuna*. Buffon has inaccurately described the guanaco as being the wild lama, and the vicuna as the wild alpacha; he is equally incorrect when he says that the alpacha is a beast of burden of the Indians. I was born in the country of the alpacha, and know the contrary to be the fact; the alpacha is a slender and feeble animal.

The lama and alpacha are domestic animals. The lama is about the size of a stag; of different colours, white, brown, and black. This animal is sometimes called the *American Camel*, but the points of resemblance are not very numerous or striking. The lama chews the cud like the common sheep; its flesh is excellent food: I have often tasted it, and esteem it equal to mutton. Its wool is long and coarse, and of that of the wild lama the Indians make their clothing. It is the common beast of burden of the Indians; its usual load is five arobas, (125lbs.); it is slow motioned, having a lofty and majestic gait, accompanied with a droning noise as it marches along, and carrying its head high in the air: in temper, it is mild, docile, and would no doubt be patient under injuries, if they were ever inflicted; but the Indians never treat this noble animal with cruelty. It was the beast of burden of the Peruvians, in the times of the Incas.

*Alpacha*. This animal is smaller than the lama. Its colour is white, black, and sometimes spotted. Its flesh, I believe is never eaten; its wool is very fine and valuable.

*Guanaco*. This animal is still smaller than the alpacha; its colour is usually a pale red, resembling a rose dried in the sun; its belly and legs are white; its wool is fine and valuable. This animal is wild; I never saw one domesticated; it frequents the most rude and inaccessible parts of the Cordilleras, and is extremely fleet of foot.



The *vicuna* is of the same size as the guanaco; it is somewhat taller than the common English sheep, but with a smaller body. Its colour is ordinarily brown, with white belly and legs. This animal is more vigorous in the elevated regions of the Cordilleras than in low and temperate situations; and the difference in the wool in the two situations is very perceptible: that in the higher parts being much the finest.

The vicunas inhabit the rudest and wildest parts of the Cordilleras, where the severity of the climate and the continual snows drive off every other animal, except the guanaco. They are found in abundance throughout the whole range of the Cordilleras, from the borders of Chili far to the north. In passing along the eastern Cordillera, in the neighbourhood of Choque-Camata, in Cochabamba, and towards the borders of Chili, you frequently see droves of many hundreds of these animals like flocks of sheep. They are extremely fleet-footed and are caught with difficulty in the chase, but their wonderful timidity furnishes an easy mode of taking them. The Indian hunters, by a mode with which they are acquainted, collect them together in a place surrounded with pickets fixed in the ground, upon the tops of which bits of cloth are fastened, which being shaken by the wind, so terrify the timid vicunas that they make no effort to escape, and are easily caught. They are never sheared, and every fleece costs the life of one of these valuable animals. They are sometimes hunted with dogs and guns like deer. They are easily domesticated, and become as tame and as familiar with man as a dog. They are frequently to be found in the Indian cabin, and sometimes in the houses of the rich in the interior cities.

The wool of the alpacha is of an excellent quality, but that of the vicuna is perhaps the finest in



the world. It is thick and bushy, extremely fine, soft and silky to the touch; and possesses an extraordinary gloss and lustre; it is more like silk than ordinary wool, and it does not lose its glossiness by being dyed. In this animal is found the *bezoar stone*, which is considered equal to the oriental.

*Cochineal*, (called *Maekno* by the Indians.) This insect, which occurs in its native state in abundance in Peru, is not cultivated there, but its importance, if it were cultivated, may be estimated from the fact that its annual exportation from Mexico, in years of peace, amounts to nearly two and a half millions of dollars. Its price at Vera Cruz is about \$3 a pound; in New York, at the present time, it is from 6 to \$8.

This valuable product is suffered to grow, and to perish, without exciting the attention of the incurious Spaniard.

*Fur.* The fur of the *chinchilla* is not inferior to that of the martin. It is already exported to Europe in considerable quantities. The *chinchilla* is a little animal, about the size of a cat; it is found in Lipez, and generally on the Cordilleras; its flesh is often eaten, and esteemed a delicacy.

The *furs* also of the *zorillo*, and the *bullin*, an amphibious animal, are very valuable. The skins of the *American tiger* are collected in considerable quantities by the Indians.

*Plumage.* Ostrich feathers are collected by the Indians. The ostrich is found on the bleak and barren regions of the Cordilleras in considerable abundance.

But the most remarkable bird of South America is the *condor*, which is between three and four feet in height, and whose wings are at least fourteen feet from end to end. These mammoth birds are domesticated; their colour is a dark brown, with a white collar around their necks. At the bull feasts



they are often turned into the arena to fight with the bulls; they are of remarkable strength, and will run and fly with amazing swiftness.

There are between 40 and 50 species of parrots in this country, some of which are very large and beautiful.

There are between 40 and 50 species of parrots in this country, some of which are very large and beautiful.

In the preceding remarks upon the productions of Upper Peru, it has not been my object to write the natural history of that country, but to notice such of its products as may hereafter become important articles of foreign commerce. I will now point out others, which more particularly concern the domestic economy of the country.

*Wheat.* This valuable grain is produced in great abundance in Cochabamba, in the province of Larecaja in La Paz, and in the Intendencies of Arequipa and Cuzco. At Cuzco it is so abundant that the price of 8 loaves of bread weighing 18oz. each, and of the first quality, is sixpence; and that of the second quality is a halfpenny a loaf, of the same weight.

The Intendency of Cuzco is extremely fertile, and furnishes the cold districts of Peru with great quantities of wheat and maize. Judge Bland, late United States' commissioner to South America, in his excellent report on Chili, has certainly been misinformed when he says, "none of the tropical regions of America, either on the Atlantic or Pacific ocean, produce wheat, or indeed any bread stuff, in sufficient abundance for the inhabitants"—and again, "from Acapulco to Cobija, (the country) is entirely dependant upon Chili for bread." The present high price of wheat at Lima (\$25 a bushel,) and along the Pacific coast, is owing to several accidental causes:—to the revolution, which has so busily en-



gaged the Cochabambians and the people of Cuzco that they have had no leisure to attend to the cultivation of their fields;—and to the great expense of transportation, in consequence of the scarcity of mules. The supply of these animals, from Tucuman, has been entirely suspended during the present war. I am confident that Cuzco and Cochabamba can alone supply all Peru with wheat.

The mean produce of wheat in Peru, compared to that of other countries, is truly astonishing. It is computed by Humboldt that the produce of wheat in the plains of Caxamarca in Low Peru, is from 18 to 20 for 1, while that of France is from 5 to 6 for 1, and that of Kentucky, Tennessee, and Louisiana, is 4 for 1. From these data, we may estimate the average produce of wheat in Caxamarca, to be from 60 to 70 bushels an acre.

*Maize* (Indian corn.) A native production of America, like the potatoe. It is produced in amazing abundance in Cuzco, and yields from 1 to 200 fold. Several varieties are cultivated, one whose kernal is an inch long. The stalks usually attain the height of from 8 to 10 feet, and they contain almost as much sugar as the sugar-cane; a syrup, resembling molasses, is frequently extracted from them.

*Rice.*—Is produced in considerable abundance in the eastern Provinces.

*Sugar.* The sugar cane is cultivated in Cuzco, Arequipa, Larecaja, and Santa Cruz de la Sierra. The sugar of Cuzco is esteemed the best, although the climate of Arequipa, on account of the absence of rain, seems most favourable to its successful culture.

*Horned cattle*—Are scarce and dear in Peru, compared to Tucuman and some other provinces of Rio de la Plata, and are of small size. The farmers use oxen altogether in cultivating their



fields. In the warm and temperate regions, cows supply the inhabitants with milk; while in the cold, sheep's milk is wholly used, and of which butter and cheese are made. I have already borne testimony to the excellence of the cheese of Paria, which is made of the milk of sheep. These animals (common sheep) are in great numbers in this country; the fields are almost covered with them. Their wool is an important article of internal commerce.

*Fruit.* It is unnecessary, and indeed, it would be impossible for me to enumerate all the varieties of fruits to be found in this country; they are produced, both native and exotic, in the greatest profusion and perfection. The gardens of the convents in Cuzco can only be compared to the fairy scenes of Eastern romance, or the visions of poetic fancy. Among the exotics we may reckon almost all the fruits of Europe; of grapes they had a great variety of their own, or which were introduced by the Spaniards after the conquest; and in addition to these, Mr. Bonpland, the celebrated companion of Humboldt, brought to Buenos Ayres a few years since, thirteen varieties of grapes from the vineyards of France, together with some fruit trees and valuable plants, many of which have, no doubt, already found their way to the gardens of Cuzco and Cochabamba. Of olives great quantities are cultivated in Arequipa; they are of unusual size, and the oil which is made from them is excellent, and very cheap throughout all Peru.

#### COMMERCE.

The commerce of Peru has heretofore been wholly confined to Spain. The Spanish merchant introduced his goods through two channels, Lima and Buenos Ayres, which were called *puertos may-*



*ores* in contradistinction to the *puertos menores*, such as Arica, Ilo, &c. which could not trade directly with the mother country. The Phillippine Islands also carried on a trade with Lima, and had a factory, or mercantile company there, called *Gremios*, with branches in the interior towns. The commodities of the East introduced in this way into Peru, have been estimated to amount annually to \$270,230, which were exchanged for gold and silver to the amount of \$2,780,000. The European goods imported, are exchanged for gold and silver, and besides, for copper, Peruvian bark, Alpacha and Vicuna wool, chinchilla skins, and some other trifling articles.

The consumers of foreign commodities in Peru, have been only Spaniards and Creoles, including a few mestizos and mulattos, which altogether may be one fourth of the whole population. The cholos, negroes, and Indians, almost entirely use articles of domestic manufacture. In the intendency of Cuzco, there are large manufactories of baize, the fulling and dressing of cloths being prohibited by the King. Notwithstanding which prohibition, during the late continental war in Europe, fine woollen fabrics were made at these manufactories. Blankets of a fine quality are manufactured, and in the intendency of Puno, Indian cloths and carpets are made, which supply the coast. The wool for these manufactories, is supplied from that region of country called *La Sierra*, situated between the Cordilleras. The principal cotton manufactories are in Cochabamba and some parts of La Paz.

The interior commerce between Upper and Low Peru, has been calculated at \$6,693,513, annually. The amount of foreign goods introduced through Buenos Ayres into Peru is estimated, by the Secretary Moreno, to have been, before the revolution, \$18,000,000, annually; and the amount introdu-



ced into all America, according to M. Torres, is \$100,000,000. But the foreign commerce heretofore carried on with South America, affords no certain data from which we may calculate what will be the future commerce of that country. The merchants of Cadiz, who monopolized the colonial trade of Spain, did not proceed upon any regular commercial system, except that of buying cheap of the colonies, and selling dear to them, and they were only the agents of foreign merchants; the same routine was followed year after year for nearly three centuries; no new branches of trade were opened, but an universal languor pervaded all their operations. Besides, the colonies were subjected to the united influence of the worst of governments, and of a religion which has been a blast upon every country where it has predominated. Until within a few years, the colonies were not permitted to trade with each other; they were placed in the position of belligerents, and their ports in that of besieged or blockaded towns; and even the mother country herself could not carry on a trade with them. At first, Seville monopolized the whole commerce of South America, and it was afterwards slowly and gradually extended to Cadiz and the other ports, but it was forever subjected to odious restrictions. To enforce them, the penal code of Spain was exhausted; and to the pains of death and confiscation of property, were added the fearful anathemas of the Church. It was not until the year 1778, in the administration of Galvez, that the free commerce of South America was granted to the merchants of Spain, but its manufactures were still shackled by the laws.\*

\* In a royal order of the 6th December, 1784, a ter a recital that the wool of the Vicuna had been used in the manufacture of hats at Lima, which was contrary to law, and to the great prejudice of the manufactures of the mother country, it was



From the few lights which are shed upon the commerce of Peru, it is impossible to judge of the present extent of the market, the quantity of goods demanded, or the number of consumers. A feeble light is indeed derived from the example of Buenos Ayres, and the wealth and population of Peru. The country of Low Peru, which extends from Tumbez, in lat.  $3^{\circ} 30'$  S. to the Cordillera of Vilcanota, in lat.  $14^{\circ} 30'$  S. embraces a large extent of territory, including eight intendencies, eight populous cities, and 1460 small towns or villages. The capital, Lima, contained, according to an accurate census taken in 1798, 52,627 inhabitants, without including tributary Indians, or the neighbouring villages.\* The city of Cuzco, the ancient metropolis of the Incas, situated in the interior, is nearly equal to Lima in population, and but little inferior to it in wealth. The whole population of Peru has been variously estimated at from 1,700,000 to 3,000,000. The inhabitants along the coast consist chiefly of whites and mulattoes, who generally speak the Spanish language, and are possessed of property, while those of *La Sierra* are mostly tributary Indians. Wealth is here more equally divided than in Mexico; the mines are richer, and are at present, I imagine, better worked. Steam engines have been recently introduced at Lima, and chemistry and mineralogy are beginning to be well un-

ordered that all the Vicuna wool should be bought up on account of government, and sent to Spain. This order is referred to by Dean Funes in his History of Buenos Ayres, to show that Humboldt is mistaken in the assertion that the king of Spain never issued any order to prohibit or discourage manufactures in the colonies.

\* In the year 1632, when the Duke de la Palata, the Viceroy, made his entrance into Lima, three whole streets were paved with ingots of solid silver, each weighing 200 marks, and being from 12 to 15 inches in length, estimated at 54,000,000 dollars. In 1700, there were 400 carriages in this city.



derstood. When this country shall have gained its freedom, the Indians, mestizos, and cholos, who altogether are very numerous, will be added to the consumers of foreign commodities, and will of course greatly increase the demand.

Although I have not been able to ascertain the precise amount of foreign goods imported into Buenos Ayres since the revolution, yet I am confident it has been very great; and the beneficial influence of commerce upon civilization and industry, has been amply demonstrated in its happy effects upon the people of Buenos Ayres and the interior provinces. Anterior to the ordinance of the King opening the ports of the La Plata, the interior provinces were in extreme want; wheat perished in the fields; the flesh of bullocks was left to putrefy on the earth, or to be devoured by wild dogs and vultures; the people, wrapped in their *ponchos*, with their butcher-knives and catch-ropes, the only implements of their industry, presented the most miserable picture of wretchedness and sloth; abounding in commodities of the first necessity to the subsistence of man, having a plentiful surplus, sufficient to have purchased for them every convenience and luxury of life, yet being far distant from a place of demand, and their ports shut up, those otherwise valuable articles were of no use to them, and perished on their hands. But when the revolution broke out, the English, with their characteristic enterprise, poured their goods into Buenos Ayres, and they were sold at low prices, and were thus thrown within the reach of all classes; the farmers of the interior exchanged their hides, beef and wheat, which they did not want, for the conveniences and luxuries of Europe; they procured commodities which before they had never imagined; and along with their merchandise, the English in-



roduced their customs, their improvements in the arts, and in the comforts of life.

From the re-conquest of Chili, in October 1817, to July 1818, there arrived in the ports of that country, twenty-four American vessels, whose cargoes were estimated at \$1,387,000; twenty English vessels, whose cargoes amounted to \$1,835,000; two Russian, one Swedish, and one French; the whole, according to the Report of Judge Bland, amounting to \$4,000,000. In this short period, a greater number of foreign vessels arrived in Chili, than in fifty years before; and the people of this country, like their brethren of Buenos Ayres, must have experienced many important benefits from this foreign commerce.

The preceding facts lead to several important and interesting considerations.

1st. The countries of Upper and Lower Peru, alike in population, habits, interests, and productions, and bordering upon each other, will hereafter probably carry on their foreign commerce, either by Cape Horn, or the isthmus of Darien. On their long and safe coast, foreign ships will find commodious harbours, where the merchants of every clime can carry their merchandise, and exchange it for those valuable productions which I have noticed in the preceding letters. But there are other channels of commercial communication which may be opened with this country, which, in the language of Humboldt, is destined to change the commercial face of nations. I have already spoken of the navigation of the Amazon. This magnificent river rises in Peru, and after running a northwardly and eastwardly direction a distance of between three and four thousand miles, empties into the Atlantic ocean, just below the West Indies. The whole of this distance, from the foot of the Andes to the ocean, this river is navigable, and the navigation may be per-



formed in thirty days; and, although its current in the rainy season may prevent the easy ascent of vessels, it will afford, like the Mississippi, a noble channel for steam-boat navigation.

And here I cannot pass over the splendid and much talked of project, of cutting a canal across the isthmus of Darien, to connect the Atlantic and Pacific oceans. The continent, at the narrowest point, the isthmus of Tehuantepec, is forty-five leagues wide. There are here two rivers, the Rio Huasacualco and the Chimalapa, the former emptying into the gulf of Mexico, and the latter into the Pacific ocean. Humboldt states that the Rio Huasacualco forms in reality, a commercial communication between the two oceans; and that, during the late war with the English, the indigo of Guatemala came by the way of this isthmus to Vera Cruz, and thence to Europe.

The Lake Nicaragua has been considered as affording the most convenient point of canal communication. This river communicates on the east, by the river San Juan, with the sea of Antilles. Here a canal would be cut across the isthmus which separates the Lake Nicaragua from the gulf of Papagayo, on the Pacific coast. It is asserted by Humboldt, that the ground here appears very little elevated; and Dampier says expressly that it is a little hilly, but generally low and level.

There is another point where a water communication might be effected, by means of the river Ghangre which empties into the sea of Antilles. This river is navigable to Cruces, where it is one hundred and thirty feet in width, and it may be ascended, in four or five days, to this place, from whence to Panama it is only five small leagues, according to Humboldt. Between these two points the Cordillera stretches north; from the summit of which, it is said that both oceans can be seen at the



same time. Upon an assertion of Wafer, that the hills, forming the central chain of this Cordilleras are separated from one another by valleys, which allow free course for the passage of rivers, Humboldt remarks, that if this is true, we might believe in the possibility of a canal from Cruces to Panama, of which the navigation would only be interrupted by a few locks.

It is astonishing, that, although the project of a canal across the isthmus of Darien has occupied every mind for more than three centuries, no survey of the ground has ever been made; the practicability of such a canal, however, can no more be doubted, than the immeasurable mass of benefits which would result from it to the commercial world. I do not hesitate to say, that a communication of navigable waters across that narrow isthmus which connects the two Americas, would produce as momentous changes upon the commerce and the wealth of the world, as the discovery of the passage to India by the Cape of Good Hope. Like that, it would change the course of navigation to the East, and Peru and Mexico would be intervening points in that new route, with the enterprise and industry of Europe and the United States on the one hand, and the rich products of Asia on the other, and eager to exchange their gold and silver for the manufactured goods of the former, and the silks and spices of the latter. Next to Peru and Mexico, the United States are more interested in this splendid project than any other nation, on account of their proximity to South America, their commerce with the East Indies, the precious metals of Peru and Mexico, the furs of Nootka Sound, and their establishment at Columbia river, on the Pacific ocean.

2d. At least five millions of new consumers of foreign goods will be created at once, whenever the colonial system shall be destroyed. And whether



the much abused people of this country shall become warriors or agriculturists; whether there shall arise a Cæsar, or a Washington, to foster their infant liberties, or bury them in the dust: or some descendant of the Incas, inspired with the genius of Manco Capac, shall arise to break their iron yoke, and to collect together, in their ancient metropolis, the wandering and wretched remnant of the children of the Sun; whatever may be the future fortunes of the Peruvians, it is certain that the empire of commerce will be extended, and the enterprise and industry of the whole world attracted to their shores. And those Peruvian warriors, who are now fighting the battles of their country on the plains of Rio de la Plata, in Chili, and on the ocean, and mingling with those who are in close communication with enlightened Europeans, will return, like the soldiers of the Cross, to their native country, laden with the spoil, if not of conquest, of civilization and arts.

Upper and Low Peru will, in all probability, return to their primitive political situation, and be united under the same government; and prompted by that spirit of rivalry, which is inherent in nations, as well as in individuals, and by the most obvious dictates of policy, they will eagerly throw open their numerous ports to foreign commerce, in order to keep pace with the rapid advance of their sister states, Buenos Ayres and Chili, in national prosperity; and with their precious metals, they will purchase, directly of foreign merchants, every thing they want, without waiting for a yard of cloth to reach them by travelling hundreds of miles across the Pampass of Buenos Ayres. And their harbours being more commodious than those of Chili, and their climate finer, greater attractions will be presented to foreign merchants, to invite them to their ports.



The prospect which is opening to the commercial enterprise of the United States, is of the most interesting character. From the proximity of the United States to Peru, they will be able to carry on their trade with that country with far greater facilities than any of the nations of Europe. They will be able to procure from Peru all the specie which they may want, either to supply the place of Bank paper, as a circulating medium, or to sustain its shattered credit; and to carry on, upon a more profitable and extended scale, their commerce with the East. It may surprise those who are unacquainted with the extent of that commerce, to learn, that at least three millions of dollars are annually shipped to China, for the single article of tea; and that, from July 1817, to April 1818, five millions, seven hundred thousand Spanish dollars arrived in the port of Canton, in American vessels.

The precious metals can be obtained in Peru, for several commodities, which I am informed, can be exported cheaper from the United States than from any other nation: such as coarse cottons, ships, leather, furniture, hats, castings, nails, carriages, and some other articles. Peru is not now, and will not soon become, a manufacturing country; its population is too thin, and it has other more abundant sources of wealth. The trade to be carried on with that country, therefore, will be principally in manufactured goods, which command high prices.\* If the United States shall participate in this trade,

\* The price of iron in times of peace, has been eighty and ninety dollars for 100 lbs. and that of steel, one hundred and thirty-five dollars for 100 lbs.; common writing paper, twelve dollars a ream; broad cloths from fifteen to twenty dollars a yard; velvet from six to eight; bayetas, a fine stuff like flannel, from two dollars and fifty cents to five dollars a yard; boots twenty-five dollars a pair; levantine silks five and six dollars a yard.



their manufactures will thereby be encouraged;—an object, no doubt, of great importance to their prosperity, and which some of their best citizens have much at heart. And if manufactures are ever extensively and prosperously established in the United States, it will be owing to foreign, not domestic demand for manufactured goods; without such demand, they will never flourish, no matter how powerful the patronage, how lavish the bounties, or how heavy the impositions upon foreign goods. But aside from considerations of mercantile gain, or the encouragement of manufactures, the people of the United States have a powerful interest in establishing a close connexion with their sister republics in the south; the welfare of both parties calls loudly for such an alliance, and more especially since the crowned heads of Europe have made common cause for the stability of their thrones, and have formed their memorable *league of legitimacy*. It is here in the two Americas that the people, strong in their principles, and rich in resources, and displaying humanity and justice, constancy and courage, should erect a formidable barrier against the encroachments of European tyranny; it is here, that the proud waves of despotism should be stayed; and here, should be buried forever in the grave of oblivion, that calamitous maxim which has been canonized for ages in Europe, that *Kings rule by the Grace of God*.

But in America, there has been erected a monarchy whose sovereign, too powerless to remain in Europe, was forced to flee across the Atlantic, and to seek for safety, and for refuge in his remote colonies; and no sooner did he set foot upon the shores of America, than, fired with that insatiate lust of conquest, which has drenched Europe with blood, and hung the world in mourning, he directed his arms against an infant people, still struggling in the iron grasp of their oppressors, in or-



der to fasten upon them the chains from which he had just escaped. This delirium of domination, which has directed all the steps of King John of the Brazils, has led him to desolate the fairest portion of the globe; but he has been taught, amid the thunder of cannon, and the groans of the dying, that the time has gone by, when men, who are resolved to be free, can be subdued, or monarchs can rule by the sword; and those naked and ignorant men, who have been opposed on the plains of Monte Video, to soldiers inured to war, in contending the armies of Napoleon, have shown to the world, that they prefer the horrors of war to the calm of despotism, and death to slavery.

The names of the gallant chiefs, who have so heroically conducted to the camp of glory, an undisciplined and inexperienced multitude, to resist the encroachments of foreign tyrants, will be transmitted with honour to posterity; and the history of the revolution, when it unfolds its black pages, inscribed with the names of the European tyrants, who have traversed the ocean, to deluge with the blood of her sons, the innocent soil of America, will at the same time exhibit in its most brilliant and splendid pages, the names of General Rivero, and Don Jose Artigas,—that extraordinary man, whom nature has so prodigally gifted with genius, and who has so gloriously sustained himself and his country, amid the convulsions of intestine war, and the conflicting passions of the human heart; who has been the stable rock of the ocean, against which the billows of the ambition of the Brazilian cabinet have beat in vain, and whose important services for his country must command the gratitude of his compatriots, and the admiration of the world. The fame of the Orientals and their gallant Chiefs will be eternal, like the flow of their noble river, and fresh as the verdure of its shores.



For that great favour conferred upon me, by Magdelama the Queen, to whom I am indebted, in a great measure, for my present existence, as mentioned in the foregoing part of this work, I feel myself in gratitude bound to insert the following pieces in honour of the fair sex, which is PROVEN, THEY ARE HIGHLY WORTHY OF, INTITLED,

## THE RIGHTS OF WOMEN INVESTIGATED.

*Go to my brethren, and say unto them, I ascend unto my Father, and your Father; and to my God, and your God. St. John, Chap. xx. 17.*

Leaving the doctrines of the Trinity, Baptisms and the Resurrection, in the belief of which we, all of us, profess to be fully established,

1. Let us consider for a few moments to whom this gracious command was given.

2. Mention a few recorded in ancient and modern history.

3. The forbearance of those tried with afflictions.

4. The respect due to the sex in general. And finally, make a few inquiries, do we as christians, as husbands and brothers, show that respect?

Agreeably to our plan then, we are first to inquire to whom this gracious command was given, "Go to my brethren, and say unto them, I ascend unto my Father, and your Father; and to my God, and your God!"

Beyond all controversy it was to a woman, and one too, to whom much had been forgiven: and, as if the Saviour had meant to employ the females as well as the males, in the promulgation of the gospel, St. Luke, the physician, tells us that she was not alone in this great work; Joanna also, and Mary the mother of James, and other women that were with them, having received this commission, told these things unto the apostles:



Which brings me to the second head of our discourse, namely, to point out a few of these amiable characters mentioned in ancient and modern history.

I say *a few only*; for were I to enumerate the whole, figures are not sufficient to calculate, nor is space on our globe capable to contain those multitudes of heroines, who, like the stars of the firmament, or the sand upon the sea shore, are innumerable! Suffice it therefore, and permit me to put the question, not, what think ye of Christ? but what think ye of these women already mentioned? even of these who ministered to our Benefactor's necessities, who came with him from Galilee, and after beholding the sepulchre, how his body was laid, prepared spices and ointments, and having come again, after having rested the sabbath-day according to the commandment, and bowing down their faces, heard a voice, saying, Why seek ye the living among the dead? He is not here, but is risen: remember how he spake unto you when he was yet in Galilee.

Can you behold, unmoved, the princess Dashkoff, on the assassination of Peter III, with a sabre in her hand, on horseback, by night in the streets of Petersburg, cutting her way through legions of cavalry, proclaiming Catherine II empress of Russia?

Joan of Arc, a menial servant, at the head of the French armies, retrieving her country from the servile yoke of the English?

Jael smiting Sisera?

The wise woman throwing the head of the son of Bichri over the wall to Joab?

Esther's resolution to save her people?

Isabella releasing Columbus from those cruel chains, enviously fixed by that wicked priest the bishop of Burgos Intendant of the second expedition, exclaiming, while her delicate hands unloosed



the fetters from off his arms and feet, Shall the benefactor of mankind be thus treated?

Clementina too, the consort of Clovis first king of the Franks, many centuries before Isabella's day, when she could no otherwise prevail upon her husband to embrace christianity, obtains a promise, on his greatest difficulty, he will call upon the Saviour. On one of his frequent excursions against his neighbouring enemies, upon his being on the point of being entirely routed, Clovis calls upon Clementina's God, who gives him the victory! He returns—proclaims himself a christian, enjoins his subjects to follow his example: And thus a nation was born in a day!

Do you see Aaron's sister prophesying in the camp, or the holy women, in the apostles' days, labouring with them in the gospel? Mrs. Rowe, with many others, exclaiming, How long shall this my sinful body keep me from my God!

For acts of piety might I instance Dorcas, of humanity Pharaoh's daughter, of courage Deborah, and of benevolence and generosity Isabella, without whose assistance, neither we nor our fathers had ever seen the gospel dawn in America!

Were we to consider this amiable character, under the third head of our discourse, in the field with her husband Ferdinand, boldly fighting against the Moors, whom they extirpated, and Columbus, a native of Genoa, after two years spent in vain at the courts of France and London, craving an audience, obtained on the very evening on which the Moorish general was taken prisoner; however willing I am to assist you, says the monarch, I am not able—these Moors have cut off three-fourths of my army, and my coffers are nearly drained of my all: But, replied Isabella, as if no trial however great, could ever overcome her, my jewels, these my trappings which I consider as toys, these I pledge to defray



the expense of your great undertaking; men, ships and provisions, are at your command, take these, and may the God of armies grant you every success! Perhaps, in that land, if such exist, the people there, may in sometime to come, as we do in our camp here, pray to God in the open air, and sing the praises of an exalted Redeemer! Go, Columbus, go; dress and ornament are below my notice; I value only the endowments of the mind!

Alike exalted in virtue and chastity, but with far different sensations is, alas! the situation of Lucretia: although we cannot approve the act, yet the case of such a woman deserves our tears, the case of like-injured innocence demands our sympathy! Hear the speech of Junius Brutus over her dead body.

“Yes, noble lady,” (holding in his hand the bloody dagger by which she had pierced her breast,) “Yes, noble lady, I swear by this blood, which was once so pure, and which nothing but royal villany could have polluted, that I will pursue Lucius Tarquinius the proud, with fire and sword; nor will I ever suffer any of that family, or of any other whatsoever, to be king in Rome; ye gods, I call you to witness this my oath! There, Romans, turn your eyes to that sad spectacle—daughter of Lucretius, Collatinus’ wife—she died by her own hand. See there a noble lady, whom the lust of a Tarquin reduced to the necessity of being her own executioner, to attest her innocence.”

“Hospitably entertained by her, as a kinsman of her husband’s, Sextus the perfidious guest, became her brutal ravisher. The chaste, the generous Lucretia, could not survive the insult. Glorious woman! but once only treated as a slave, she thought life no longer to be endured. Lucretia, a woman, disdained a life that depended on a tyrant’s will!”

But how many, alas! in our own days, must endure life to be contemptuously treated by a brutal husband!



Witness the adulterer, flying from the wife in whose tongue is the law of kindness, seducing, perhaps, the unsuspecting daughter of his intimate friend, or wallowing in uncleanness, bringing home with him affection to his bed!

The drunkard too, returning home from the tavern enflamed with wine, spurns the wife of his bosom from him, while she, pensive and sad, looks upon her little ones in want and naked, then reverting her languishing eye upon him, and with a heart ready to break, exclaims, alas! alas! I cannot dig, to beg I am ashamed; although my husband be thus infatuated, I love him still; although I am reviled, still I bless; although smitten on the one cheek, I turn to him the other also!

You, our children, whom I suffuse with my tears, upbraid him not! The comforts I receive from religion give me a hope, God will yet have mercy on him; and the small pittance which I do earn, keeps our case less desperate than the lord of vonder manor. While he is squandering away whole estates at cards, his wife, who had sometime ago, obtained a separate maintenance, is daily at the Pharo-table, deeply sunk under debts of honour and accumulated vice, occasioned by her husband's perfidy and bad example! Their children, alas! scattered one here and another there, are taught forever to forget their parents and the God who made them!

Touched and alarmed at this tale of wo, the children, while some grasp her hands, and others her knees, all with one voice exclaim, let this fate never be ours. Neither entreat us to leave you, or to return from following after you; for whither thou goest, we will go; and where thou lodgest, we will lodge; thy people shall be our people; and thy God, our God: where thou diest, will we die, and there will we be buried: the Lord do so to us, and more also, if aught but death part thee and us!



By the precepts of the gospel, carefully by you inculcated, and by your pious example, we too can rejoice in Jesus Christ our Saviour! His sufferings and death we can repeat by heart, as also His sermon on the mount;—while one cautions, judge not, that ye be not judged; another enjoins, let us pull out the beam, out of our own eyes before we discover the mote in our papy's: and while one with a heavenly accent divinely exclaims, Blessed are they that mourn, for they shall be comforted; the youngest of all, looking on his sisters, and then at his mother, responses, Blessed are ye when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for Jesus' sake; Rejoice, adds he, rejoice and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets who were before you!

Can any of you, for a moment, fancy you see this persecuted, but happy groupe, Jesus in the midst, blessing them, and saying, Fear not, little flock, for it is my Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. In consequence of keeping my words, my Father loves you, and now we are come unto you to make our abode with you.

Here is the respect that is due to virtue! My peace I give unto you; not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your hearts be troubled; neither let them be afraid! If you are poor here, you shall be richer there; if you be persecuted here, you shall be the happier there. Be faithful unto the death, and I will give you, to each of you a crown of life!

Do you see the little boy, with uplifted hands exclaim, Who then shall ever separate us from the love of Christ? These outward afflictions to our mother, (addressing his sisters) are not grievous; consider the lilies how they grow: they toil not, neither do they spin; and yet I say unto you, that



Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. If then God so clothe the grass, which is to day in the field, and to-morrow is cast into the oven; how much more will he clothe us? yes, and like Elijah's case, we shall receive bread and flesh in the morning, and bread and flesh in the evening; like the widow's barrel of meal, the little we have shall not waste:—being better instructed, we do not live by bread alone, but by every word which proceedeth out of the mouth of God!—

Our Christ, he is the tree of life,  
Which in God's garden grows;  
Whose fruit doth feed, whose leaves do heal,  
Our Christ is Sharon's rose!

Who then shall ever separate us from his love? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord; and,

Although the fig-tree should not blossom, neither should fruit be in the vine; although the labour of the olive should fail and the fields should yield no meat; and although the flocks should be cut off from the folds, and there should be no herd in the stalls; yet we will rejoice in the Lord, and joy in the God of our salvation: For to us to live is Christ, and to die is gain!

Which brings me to the last particular in our plan, viz. to ask, do we as christians, as husbands, as brothers, show that respect?

We cannot properly appreciate the value of a woman, far less that of a pious sister. Could Eli



say to Hannah, while she was praying, how long wilt thou be drunken, put away thy wine from thee! or the disciples to Mary Magdalene, and the other women, the story of Christ's resurrection is an idle tale! and shall the

Sons of Freedom, shall the males of this denomination here, or that of any other, ever say to the females, Stand by, we are more holy than you! shall the husband ever say to his wife, as Charles XI. of Sweden to his consort: You came to my house for the purpose only of bringing me children! common sense forbid it! rather let the man, even the priest himself, lay his hand upon his breast, and pray, God forgive me this sin also! If I have not sinned against my bed, I have often, but too often rejected that advice and that wisdom, so far superior to my own; and while the gospel enjoined me to love my wife as Christ the church, I have looked upon almost every other woman better than my first love!

Forgetting to make a covenant with my eyes, I have run foolishly on from bad to worse, till now, even now my heart, and her forbearing, prudent, and affectionate conduct towards me, tell—all is already forgiven! Why do I not therefore arise and go to my filial spouse, and cast myself at her feet: then—then should we go hand in hand to heaven! If I performed family prayer in the morning, she should in the evening, ever esteeming, as is most true, her spiritual attainments better than my own!

This brings me to put the question to my brethren in the Lord, why is it, or how is it, that our pious sisters do not generally bear a share in public prayer and exhortation?

It is because the Jewish as well as other women of the eastern nations were held in slavery?

It is because you see that innate modesty in them, the consequence of a chaste mind, that you would have as it were to drag them into the service? Or



rather, that they having finer feelings and deeper piety, you are afraid of being eclipsed in devotional exercises?

Having a better opinion of you, though I thus speak, your zeal calls loudly for a more rapid spread of the gospel; and if you are serious, as I doubt not, and as you have more than two thirds of your number as a body of reserve, (what a glorious reinforcement) and as they have long been panting after inward holiness, call them, instantly call them into the field of action, and, like the Sabine women, who threw themselves between the two contending armies, to effect that which the sword, or military tactics, could never accomplish, their prayers and entreaties mingled with tears, uniting with yours, will be productive of that good, so much the wish and expectation of every devout christian!

Like the prophet of old to Jehu, I have a message from God to you, O Female. Unto which of all of us, might be your reply? my answer is, unto all the regenerated in the Lord, to all who are here, and to those who are far off, even to as many as the Lord our God shall call;—That ye put on therefore, as holy and beloved, the whole armour of God, being girt about with truth, and having on the breast-plate of righteousness—let your feet be shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace, taking the shield of faith wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked, the helmet of salvation also, and the sword of the spirit, which is the word of God; praying always with all prayer and supplication in the spirit: thus armed,

Call upon sinners, call aloud, sinners, turn, why will you die? as you proclaim, The power of the Lord—The power of the Lord, and the unsearchable riches of Christ. The wings of love and arms of faith will bear you conqueror through; having a single eye to the glory of God, your labours will be



abundantly blessed! the pleasure of the Lord shall prosper in your hands. Your pastors, and your husbands, at least all they who are alive to God, will rejoice, they will be workers together with you in the great work of calling in, and building up in the most holy faith.

---

### A REMARKABLE CIRCUMSTANCE.

Among my numerous travels, as I was one day riding along the banks of the North River, which leads from the city of New York, to the city of Albany, near to a small town known by the name of Canterhook, I was much alarmed by the most piercing shrieks and cries, apparently of a woman in distress. This lamentation appeared to me to sound from about the middle of the river, which at that part of it, was said to be some better than one mile wide. Those lamentable cries, as I thought so much implored my assistance, that I immediately jumped down and tied my horse's bridle to the limb of a tree, and steered across the river on the ice, towards where the sound seemed to come from. The nigher I got to this dreadful scene of misery, the more my anxiety prompted me to get nearer; and in a short time arrived in full view of a beautiful young gentleman and his sister, who were on a visit to their relatives in the city of Albany, riding in a sleigh drawn by a couple of fine horses on the ice, and had unfortunately broke through what is called a spring-tide in the river: these elegant fine horses were plunging up and down, sometimes on great cakes of ice, and other times off them, so that the poor horses being so much cut with the ice,



that the water appeared like a river of blood. And the sleigh in which these young couple were in, was wonderfully tossed too and fro. So much overjoyed was this couple at my appearing, that, said the young lady to her brother, we are not lost yet I hope. For thanks be to the most high, he has sent us a saviour; O! my beloved friend, said she, exert your most noble powers, and save our lives, and you shall for this noble act, have any ransom you require: be of good courage, said I, until I return back to the other side of the river; where I perceived, when hitching my horse, a house where I hope to obtain assistance, and get you both out of that miserable gulf as soon as possible. These consoling speeches rendered this distressed pair, the most glowing hopes of immediate relief. As soon as I arrived at the house of destination, I related to the family that dreadful scene of misery which I had just been a witness of, and told them in such a mournful case, to grant me all the assistance in their power. But all that was about the house, adequate to such an enterprise, was a young man about nineteen years of age, who seemed quite willing to go with me; and as I had my mind made up in order to effect the business, I discovered, standing against the house, a twenty-foot pine plank. Now, said I to the young man, this long board with our economy, will be sure to effect our undertaking. And so we shouldered the plank, and were soon, but not too soon, at the scene of distress, where we were long looked for by the languishing eyes of these dying pair: I then gave them another word of consolation, saying, be of good comfort my lovely creatures, for be assured that with the assistance of Divine Providence, we will have you both out of your present difficulty, and in yonder comfortable asylum in less than fifteen minutes. Taking hold of the plank, and sliding it on the ice till we got one end of it on the



sleigh which was afloat in the great hole that was in the ice, and the other end of it on the sound ice, now said I to this young man, obey my orders strictly through this enterprise, and I'll warrant you we will gain our desired point. As I am determined, said I, to risk my life with the assistance of the great One, in saving of theirs. I then ordered this man to sit on the end of the board that was on the sound ice, this done, I crawled along the board till I got within reach of the young woman, who was almost stiff; I took hold of her by the petticoat-binding, and with great ease, as I was predetermined, got her on the plank. Then said I to the young man, pull the plank gently to you—and directly he had us both on the sound ice. Then said I, will you in like manner, get this lady's brother on the plank? but he was afraid to enter. I then found I must go through with the whole. So far that I got the brother of this young lady, also on the sound ice along side of his sister. Then came a gentleman with a sleigh and horses, in which we were drove with expedition, to the house where I obtained my assistance in the above enterprise. I being somewhat skilled in the nature of frozen hands, or feet, I immediately adopted a plan which proved in a little time, an excellent remedy for this present complaint; which was a quantity of snow melted—hot hickory wood ashes put into that, and a double handful of allum salt stirred well through the whole. Then divided this preparation into two tubs, one for each of the frozen pair, and got their feet and legs into it as hot as they could bear it, and employed persons to bathe and rub them for one hour, in which time they had revived wonderfully, at which sight I was more rejoiced seemingly, than if I had the whole universe at my command.

Heavens be praised, this is the brightest morning of my life, O what a happy period, when I first heard

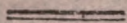


even at a distance, the lamentation of this fortunate pair.

After those couple were well recruited, and resumed their former lovely appearance again, they proposed making us a present of two hundred dollars each, but I thanked them kindly, adding that it was not for the sake of money I had performed the act, but for sake of saving life, which is dear and precious to every individual of the human family. Those two youthful creatures were the children of a William Preston, Esq. who had been lately from the city of Charleston, South Carolina, on a visit to friends in the city of New York. The young gentleman was, he said, twenty-two years of age, and his sister seventeen, who appeared to be brought up in the first style, and as beautiful a pair as I have seen since their departure.

So may every person, who has it in their power as I had, exert their best abilities in extricating their fellow creatures from such an impending danger, for they that are instrumental in saving the life of any person on this spacious globe; it is to be hoped by such noble acts of humanity that they will gain everlasting life in that world where misfortunes and misery, dwelleth not.

SHARON.



After having given the public as full a detail of the history of South America as my limits would permit, I shall again return to Magdelama the queen, and make my conclusion.

I then took my departure from these Indian chiefs, with a heart, you might suppose, pretty cheerful, and soon arrived at the Haunted Caverns, where I was kindly received by Magdelama and her family, who seemed to rejoice very much at my success.



After spending some time in those delightful mansions, and taking the last survey of every curiosity which those extensive caverns produced, I expressed a desire of taking my departure to some other clime in order to seek a new adventure, and try whether or no I might have the good fortune of meeting with my old companion Mr. Smith, who had gone off to the United States, under the expectation of my being executed amongst the Indians, and lest if he stayed to see the result, it might be also his unfortunate case. There was seemingly the greatest lamentations imaginable for my departure, between Magdelama and her family; she made use of numerous solicitations to me in order that I should tarry a few days longer with her, as she once more longed to hear another small detail of my adventures; having lost my companion and fellow traveller, Smith, I agreed to gratify her curiosity.

One day, about four o'clock in the afternoon, as I was walking for the benefit of the fresh air, I being on an eminence of ground which commanded an advantageous view of both sea and land, I there sat down to contemplate with pleasure the various objects which lay before me. The woods were dressed in their verdure, the thickets adorned with the gayest blossoms, the birds carolled beneath the branches, the lambs frolicked around the meads, the peasant whistled at his team, and the ships moved by gentle gales, were returned into their harbours. The arrival of spring had enlivened the whole face of nature, and every object yielded a display either of beauty or happiness. But to my surprise, this lovely scene was suddenly changed into a violent storm; the winds collected all their fury, and whole forests of lofty trees were in a little time torn out of root, by the fury of the hurricane, and scattered over the ground. Darkness succeed-



ed, hail-stones and rain were poured down in abundance, lightning and thunder added horror to the gloom. And now the sea, piled up in mountains, bore aloft the largest vessels; while the uproar of its waves drowned the cries of the wretched mariners. When the tempest had exhausted its rage, it was instantly followed by the shock of an earthquake. The poor inhabitants of the neighbouring villages flocked in crowds to this cavern, where they had heard I remained so long, fully convinced that my apparent sanctity would protect them in their distress. They were not a little surprised at the profound tranquillity which they said appeared in my countenance. "My friends, said I, be not dismayed, for terrible to me as well as to you would have been this war of elements, but I have meditated with attention on the various works of Providence, and I rest secure that the goodness of that mighty one is equal to his power."

After some time, to the unspeakable joy and satisfaction of all those that were but a little time previous so much alarmed and terrified, the above dreadful scene was subsided, and the sky seemed to resume its former state of serenity; the splendid and brilliant beams of the sun, seemed universally to revive the face of nature.

In making a feeble attempt to give a display of the magnificence and power of the Sun, I commence as follows:—Resplendent orb! whose diffusive, and never failing rays, illuminate the regions of immeasurable space! Celestial Lamb! Whose fires "have burned without ceasing, before the face of thy Creator, since the formation of all visible worlds! Bright star of day! the view of thy glories has kindled in my heart the most profound respect! my thoughts, elevated above every terrene object, fly upwards, and mix with thy pure, thy unexhausted elemental fire, and even dart into the bosom of



thy massive light! there in the centre of the universe, in the heart of the creation, sparkling with luminous worlds, my ravished soul prostrates itself in adoring the mighty conqueror of all things, whose sovereign will produces order from confusion, and wonders from nothing. Then, as overcome with a too near and bold approach, I return, to contemplate thy milder, distant glories, from this earthly spot.

O Sun! or by whatever name thou art called by thy Creator! source of inexhaustible light! great parent, and delegated giver of health and life! how numerous are the worlds which roll round thy immense, thy shining orb! how many millions who inhabit these spheres, bask in thy beams, and rejoice in the blessings they bestow, and for whose use they shall doubtless, be called one day to give an account! happy he! amongst them, who has enjoyed and communicated to others the benefits thou dost confer! but wo to the man who shall have deprived a fellow mortal of the least of those gifts, which the creator perpetually diffuses through the medium of thy influence! bright image of thy great fine author! like him thou bestowest thy blessings on the whole human race! like him thou dost conduct the traveller on his journey through this lower world; and like him in an inferior degree, thou dazzlest the weak eyes of man with the splendour of thy beauties, as forbidding to pry into secrets which they are unworthy to explore! father of nature and love! both love and nature, rejoice in thy light, and kindle from thy vivifying rays, those fires with which the universe is impregnated.

Parent of day! thou despisest the dark shades, with which sight envelopes all visible things! at thy appearance her sable curtain is withdrawn, and all nature adorned with thy beauty! thy triumphant fires penetrate her deepest recesses, and fertilize



every atom of inert and animal matter. All that vegetate or respire on earth, in air or water, exist only by thy influence. Those insects indeed, which flutter in thy light, live but for a moment; they perish, but still continue to shine." Returning from a reverie, which dazzles my senses, I cast my eyes towards a transparent cloud, floating in the atmosphere, under a thousand strange forms.

I then take a view of the immoveable mountains, that have for so many ages beheld the splendour of the day, and the dark shadows of night passing over their tops, whilst generations of men and animals have successfully arisen and disappeared at their feet: I have beheld the king of stars, the great fountain of light, rise every morning, at a precise moment, in which he has never failed since the creation of the universe. I have also seen the celestial spheres, rolling their immense orbits, in a regulated course, through the regions of incommensurable space. I have seen millions of beings governed by various instincts, and man, as their chief, walking alone, in the path of moral rectitude. I then said, sure there is order in the universe, and the heart of man is replenished with the seed of vice and virtue.

But when I perceive, amidst the tumults of this busy world, so many slaves to prejudice; mere tennis-balls to the caprices of fortune, and the impulse of ambitious views, torturing themselves for the most trivial objects; I withdrew from the senseless multitude, and endeavour to find in retirement, that sweet peace and serenity of mind, from whence they are continually flying on with pleasure, listen to the voice of nature, contemplate her various beauties, and experience those ravishing emotions, those lovely ideas, which she never fails to excite in her real admirers.



My heart contracted and oppressed, amidst the throng of mankind, expands in a view of the fields, to enjoy the pure air, which on this beautiful rural spot of eminence is most purely to be had. The sun's bright rays, the refreshing shade, the rich bounties of the harvest, the fragrance, and beauty of the fields, meadows, and their productions, all conspire to enchant the ravished scene.

On beholding these objects, a languor, more genial and delightful than sleep, lulls my senses; every thing appears as in prospective, and presents to my heavy eyes, a confused and obscure image that totally vanishes. I no longer hear or see; an inward sensation of sweet tranquillity occupies my entire being. I live in a kind of unconscious existence, and as it were, sunk into a mere passive composure, independent of every sense.

A ray of the sun now darts on the visual organ, and by its warm and luminous qualities restores my suspended sight, a sentiment of existence returns, and like the smile of beauty on the heart of a lover, reanimates the whole man. I again behold the fair sky, the rich orchards, and the flowery plains. I reflect with transport, I breathe with ease and delight.

What enchanting sound now strikes my ravished ear!—it is the voice of my amiable Susan, who was most as dear to me as life itself: methinks I see her sitting under the shade of a spreading tree singing the pleasures of a happy union, formed by mutual love. The tender spouse listens, and while I traced with distracted ideas, the banks of the river that wanders through these flowery meadows, my eyes stole glances on this beauteous fair, filled with the most passionate regard. The chattering of birds, their amorous cries, their cooing, their caresses, recall to us, happy pair, the idea of our first love. O! the memory of that virtuous fair shall never slip my mind while I exist on this spacious earth.



Amidst my contemplations in the sweet studies of nature and arts, a thought has just struck me to say something concerning the memory of my deceased father, who so long has lain in the cold clay of forgetfulness. His expanded heart wished the happiness of every creature; and we the objects of his great regard, should commemorate even his ashes, until time is no more. O! then let us, his sons and daughters, recal the memory of our worthy father, and be grateful to his sensibility; let us dedicate some new devices to his remembrance. Let us uncover the hives which our bees will fill with the spoils of the gardens and fields. Let that white lamb be put to its mother's bosom. Let us make chaplets of the jasmine and rose, mixed with sprigs of flowering broom. Let us pluck roses and place them in our breasts: and the rose shall perfume the bosom of the young shepherdesses. Let us also respire the odours of the flowery broom, the jasmine, and the rose; and let us be penetrated with their sweets. The most lovely of the shepherdesses shall place those flowers at the foot of his grave, on which a solar ray of the sun smiles. And let her say with us, "charming flowers! unite now, your most delicious odours—give them to be absorbed by that bright ray that darts through the branches of that spreading tree." May all these pleasures unite in one delicious sensation, as the distinct odours of these flowers give one entire perfume.—And as this fragrancy exhales into the solar ray, so may the pure and sweet sensation descend into the body underneath. "O sensible soul! who in distant time bestowed friendly thoughts on all." Let us also say together,—“Benevolent offspring of heaven! universal love, which fills the soul with tender ecstasy, far above the pleasure of sense.

Waft to that soul, these effusions of our hearts. And my loving brothers and sisters, and all my



loving playmates and companions in youth, may we boast more intellectually present and join in our former partialities of friendship, the follies of love, and all the gay trifles which smooth our passage through the dream of life. And my aged mother that is still living at the date of this book. May she find comfort in this life, and eternal happiness in that which is to come, hope, daughter of heaven! witness of innocence and virtue! go on as you have done, until you are called from this terrestrial globe to the world of spirits, in that celestial heaven of heavens." I trust you will receive an ample compensation for all your good deeds done in the flesh, in that comfortable asylum, where we all hope for eternal rest.

May the above lines impress the mind of the youthful reader, with duty to parents, a love and esteem for brothers and sisters, a kind and benevolent heart to the poor, and a universal love and veneration for all the human family.

---

### TO MISS ANN MARIA SHARON,

SIX YEARS OLD.

Sweet blossom, opening to the beams of day;  
Dear object of affection's tender care!

For when she gently smooths the painful way,  
Inspires the anxious wish, the ardent prayer!

How pleasing in thy infant mind to trace  
The dawn of reason's force, of fancy's fire,

The soft impression of each future grace,  
And all a parent's warmest hopes desire!

How sweet that smile, unknown to every art,  
Inspired by innocence, and peace, and joy!

How pure the transports of thy guiltless heart,  
Which yet no fears alarm, no cares annoy!

R



No airy phantoms of uncertain wo  
 The blessings of the present hour allay;  
 No empty hopes a fancied good bestow,  
 Then leave the soul to real grief a prey.

Gay pleasures sparkle in thy gentle eye,  
 Some new delight in every scene appears,  
 Yet soft affection heaves a secret sigh,  
 And sends an anxious wish to distant years.

While those dear smiles with tender love I view,  
 And o'er thy infant charms enraptured bend,  
 Does my fond hope a real good pursue?  
 And hope these arms to embrace a future friend.

Thy father oft the sport of fortune's been,  
 By land and sea, through many a dreadful scene,  
 Afflicted much with sickness, pain, and want,  
 Which keeps me from the heavenly place you haunt.

But should heaven to me a lengthen'd date assign,  
 I hope to dwell with me you will incline,  
 With friendship's purest flame both still engage,  
 And charm the languor of declining age.

May innocence still guard thy artless youth,  
 Ere vice and folly's snares thy breast alarm,  
 While sweetness, modesty, and spotless truth,  
 Beam from thy soul, and brighten every charm.

May heaven to you her choicest gifts impart,  
 Beyond what wealth bestows, or pride pursues,  
 May every virtue animate your heart,  
 And raise your efforts to the noblest views.

In transport wrapt may each fond parent see,  
 Through rising years, those virtues still improve,  
 While every tender care now felt for thee,  
 Your heart repays with never ceasing love.

---

THE FOLLOWING ARE MOST APPLICABLE TO MY CHE-  
 QUERED LIFE.

Remote, unfriended, melancholy, slow,  
 Or by the lazy Scheld or wandering Po;



Or onward, where the rude Corinthian boar  
 Against the houseless stranger shuts the door;  
 Or where Campania's plain forsaken lies,  
 A weary waste expanding to the skies—  
 Where'er I roam, whatever realms to see,  
 My heart, untravelled, fondly turns to thee—  
 Still to my brother turns with ceaseless pain,  
 And drags, at each remove, a lengthening chain.

Eternal blessings crown my earliest friend,  
 And round his dwelling guardian saints attend;  
 Blest be that spot, where cheerful guests retire  
 To pause from toil, and trim their evening fire;  
 Blest that abode where want and pain repair,  
 And every stranger finds a ready chair;  
 Blest be those feasts with simple plenty crown'd  
 Where all the ruddy family around  
 Laugh at the jests or pranks which never fail,  
 Or sigh with pity at some mournful tale;  
 Or press the bashful stranger to his food,  
 And learn the luxury of doing good.

But me, not destined such delights to share,  
 My prime of life in wandering spent and care—  
 Impell'd with steps unceasing to pursue  
 Some fleeting good that mocks me with the view,  
 That, like the circle bounding earth and skies,  
 Allures from far, yet, as I follow, flies;  
 My fortune leads to traverse realms alone,  
 And find no spot of all the world my own.

Even now, where Alpine solitudes ascend,  
 I sit me down a pensive hour to spend;  
 And, placed on high above the storm's career,  
 Look downward where an hundred realms appear,  
 Lakes, forests, cities, plains extending wide,  
 The pomp of kings, the shepherd's humbler pride.

When thus creation's charms around combine,  
 Amidst the store should thankless pride repine?  
 Say, should the philosophic mind disdain  
 The good which makes each humbler bosom vain?  
 Let school-taught pride dissemble all it can,  
 These little things are great to little man;  
 And wiser he whose sympathetic mind  
 Exults in all the good of all mankind.  
 Ye glittering towns, with wealth and splendour crown'd,  
 Ye fields, where summer spreads profusion round,  
 Ye lakes, whose vessels catch the busy gale,  
 Ye bending swains, that dress the flowery vale,



For me your tributary stores combine—  
Creation's tenant, all the world is mine.

As some lone miser, visiting his store,  
Bends at his treasure, counts, recounts it o'er;  
Hoards after hoards his rising raptures fill,  
Yet still he sighs, for hoards are wanting still;  
Thus in my breast alternate passions rise,  
Pleas'd with each good that Heaven to man supplies;  
Yet oft a sigh prevails, and sorrows fall,  
To see the sum of human bliss so small;  
And oft I wish, amidst the scene to find  
Some spot to real happiness consign'd,  
Where my worn soul, each wand'ring hope at rest,  
May gather bliss to see my fellows blest.  
But where to find that happiest spot below,  
Who can direct when all pretend to know?  
The shudd'ring tenant of the frigid zone  
Boldly proclaims that happiest spot his own,  
Extols the treasures of his stormy seas,  
And his long night of revelry and ease:  
The naked negro, panting at the line,  
Boasts of his golden sands and palmy wine,  
Basks in the glare, or stems the torpid wave,  
And thanks his gods for all the good they gave.  
Nor less the patriot's boast—where'er he roam,  
His first, best country ever is at home.  
And yet perhaps, if countries we compare,  
And estimate the blessings which they share,  
Tho' patriots flatter, still shall wisdom find  
An equal portion dealt to all mankind;  
As different good, by art or nature given  
To different nations, makes their blessings even.

Nature, a mother, kind alike to all,  
Still grants her bliss at labour's earnest call.  
With food as well the peasant is supplied  
On Idra's cliffs as Arno's shelvy side:  
And tho' the rocky-crested summits frown,  
These rocks, by custom, turn to beds of down.  
From art more various are the blessings sent—  
Wealth, commerce, honour, liberty, content—  
Yet those each other's power so strong contest,  
That either seems destructive of the rest.  
Where wealth and freedom reign contentment fails  
And honour sinks where commerce long prevails.  
Hence every state, to one lov'd blessing prone,  
Conforms and models life to that alone,  
Each to the favourite happiness attends,  
And spurns the plan that aims at other ends;



Till carried to excess in each domain,  
This favourite good begets peculiar pain.

But let us try these truths with closer eyes,  
And trace them through the prospect as it lies,  
Here for a while, my proper cares resign'd,  
Here let me sit in sorrow for mankind;  
Like yon neglected shrub, at random cast,  
That shades the steep, and sighs at every blast.

Far to the right, where Appennine ascends,  
Bright as the summer, Italy extends,  
Her uplands sloping deck the mountain's side,  
Woods over woods in gay theatric pride—  
While oft some temple's mould'ring tops between  
With venerable grandeur mark the scene.

Could nature's bounty satisfy the breast,  
The sons of Italy were surely blest.  
Whatever fruits in various climes are found,  
That proudly rise or humbly court the ground;  
Whatever blooms in torrid tracts appear,  
Whose bright succession decks the varied year;  
Whatever sweets salute the northern sky  
With vernal leaves, that blossom but to die—  
These, here disporting, own the kindred soil,  
Nor ask luxuriance from the planter's toil;  
While sea-borne gales their gelid wings expand  
To winnow fragrance round the smiling land.

But small the bliss that sense alone bestows,  
And sensual bliss is all this nation knows.  
In florid beauty groves and fields appear—  
Man seems the only growth that dwindles here,  
Contrasted faults through all his manners reign;  
Tho' poor, luxurious—tho' submissive, vain;  
Tho' grave, yet trifling—zealous, yet untrue;  
And even in penance, planning sins anew,  
All evils here contaminate the mind,  
That opulence departed leaves behind.  
For wealth was theirs—not far removed the date  
When commerce proudly flourish'd through the state,  
At her command the palace learnt to rise;  
Again the long-fallen column sought the skies;  
The canvas glowed, beyond even nature warm  
The pregnant quarry teem'd with human form;  
But more unsteady than the southern gale,  
Soon commerce turned to other shores her sail:  
While nought remained of all that riches gave,  
But towns unmann'd, and lords without a slave.



And late the nation found, with fruitless skill,  
Its former strength was but plethoric ill.

Yet still the loss of wealth is here supply'd  
By arts, the splendid wrecks of former pride;  
From these the feeble heart and long-fallen mind  
An easy compensation seem to find.  
Here may be seen, in bloodless pomp array'd,  
The pasteboard-triumph and the cavalcade:  
Processions form'd for piety and love,  
A mistress or a saint in every grove.  
By sports like these are all their cares beguiled—  
The sports of children satisfy the child,  
Each nobler aim, repress by long control,  
Now sinks at last, or feebly mans the soul;  
While low delights, succeeding fast behind,  
In happier meanness occupy the mind.  
As in those domes where Cæsars once bore sway,  
Defaced by time, and tottering in decay,  
There in the ruin, heedless of the dead,  
The shelter seeking peasant builds his shed;  
And, wondering man could want the larger pile,  
Exults, and owns his cottage with a smile.

My soul, turn from them—turn we to survey  
Where rougher climes a nobler race display—  
Where the bleak Swiss their stormy mansions tread,  
And force a churlish soil for scanty bread;  
No product here the barren hills afford,  
But man and steel, the soldier and his sword.  
No vernal blooms their torpid rocks array,  
But winter, lingering in the lap of May;  
No zephyr fondly sues the mountain's breast,  
But meteors glare, and stormy glooms invest.

Yet still even here, content can spread a charm,  
Redress the clime, and all its rage disarm.  
Tho' poor the peasant's hut, his feast tho' small,  
He sees his little lot the lot of all;  
Sees no contiguous palace rear its head,  
To shame the meanness of his humble shed;  
No costly lord the sumptuous banquet deal,  
To make him loathe his vegetable meal;  
But calm, and bred in ignorance and toil,  
Each wish contracting fits him to the soil,  
Cheerful at morn, he wakes from short repose,  
Breathes the keen air, and carols as he goes,  
With patient angle trolls the finny deep,  
Or drives his vent'rous ploughshare to the steep;  
Or seeks the den where snow-tracks mark the way,  
And drags the struggling savage into day.



At night returning, every labour sped,  
 He sits him down the monarch of a shed;  
 Smiles by his cheerful fire, and round surveys  
 His children's looks, that brighten at the blaze;  
 While his lov'd partner, boastful of her hoard,  
 Displays her cleanly platter on the board;  
 And haply too some pilgrim, thither led,  
 With many a tale repays the nightly bed.

Thus every good his native wilds impart,  
 Imprints the patriot passion on his heart;  
 And even those ills that round his mansion rise,  
 Enhance the bliss his scanty fund supplies:  
 Dear is that shed to which his soul conforms,  
 And dear that hill which lifts him to the storms;  
 And as a babe, when scaring sounds molest,  
 Clings close and closer to the mother's breast,  
 So the loud torrents and the whirlwind's roar  
 But bind him to his native mountains more.

---

## THE BEAUTIES OF NATURE.

Being one night about the hour of twelve, in my travels in South America, overtaken by a hail storm accompanied by thunder and lightning, which compelled me with all possible expedition, to repair to the clift of a rock for shelter; I there lay in a state of disconsolation, till the ensuing morning, much fatigued and bewildered.

There,—to my pensive thought, a wide desert extends its dreary surface, topped with disjointed rocks, crusted with flint and the spoils of winter floods. On these decaying mountains, some insulated peaks arise, as melancholy witnesses of their former height, and venerable antiquity. Time, resting on these ruins, seems to proclaim to man, proud of the monuments of his ancestors,—Here stood the mountains, and here they are interred.



Above the summits of these mighty hills, I see sharp and spiral crags arise, on whose bleak tops are formed, and increased, from age to age, those dazzling masses of snow and ice, whose elevation and magnitude render them impervious to the sun's rays. They feel not his influence, and defy his power.

What hollow and rumbling noise, like subterraneous thunders, assaults my ear! The earth trembles, rocks roll, and undulates, opens, and its parting sides discover abysses unfathomable, and horrid! Men, animals, trees, towns, palaces and cots, are engulfed in the hideous vortex; and fresh generations inhabit the ruins of the former. Islands disappear, whilst new ones rise from the bosom of the ocean. Some volcanos are extinguished, and others blaze out. Torrents of burning lava, overspread the fields; and man plants the vine, the olive and the palm-tree, on the cold stratum of these once-liquid fires. The ground shakes again, and men, with their plantations, sink together, in the opening gulf.

But war, still more terrible than volcanos, destroys with fire and sword; and levels nations, cities, arts and sciences, in one common ruin. From its devouring bosom, issue cruelty and murder; and fell despotism, crowned with a plumed casque, and bearing in its hand a sword, stained with blood, sits proudly on heaps of dead and dying fellow-creatures. The infernal tyrant strikes, crushes, and lays every thing prostrate at his feet. He then, in his turn, shakes, tumbles, and is buried under the ruins of his abhorred and merciless throne.

A brave and generous people flourish under the standard of a wise government, and a free constitution. The earth seems renewed by their triumphant hands. A nation, oppressed by tyranny and debased by servitude, bends under the galling yoke.



They pass in a decrepid state to the rule of new masters, and at length disappear in the dust of time.

There,—in the dark bosom of the forests, which once overspread the face of the country, the ancient oaks, the caves, the rocks resounded with the lying oracles of pagan imposture. Error propagated and begat gods of various orders and degrees; victims bled, and the entrails of innocence smoaked before their altars. Ignorant and infatuated priests, chaunted the wisdom and justice of these imaginary beings; and Pontiffs, ventured to dispute the points of dignity and prerogative, with the mighty rulers of the day.—The daggers of superstition and fanaticism glittered around idols of wood and stone. Systems, religions, empires, and laws rose, and were succeeded by others.

Amidst this chaos of the moral and intellectual worlds, my distracted mind seeks ease, in its researches after truth. I invoke the God of nature—I listen—I hear, as if transported to former ages, the grateful hymns, the solemn worship paid by the first race of mankind, to the benevolent Creator. I hear nature dictate her unerring precepts. “Be just, be good, be merciful! Be all you can, and you shall be happy!”

The wise man lays up these holy laws in the treasury of his heart. He pursues the plain path of justice, and finds his reward in the peaceful enjoyment of all that nature can bestow; on the contrary, the senseless multitude are deaf to her voice, and even stifle any virtuous emotions derived from the fountain of truth. The depraved man, disdaining to partake of the good things, which his native soil offers in abundance, dares to traverse unknown seas, to rob the people of distant lands; carrying from clime to clime, vices, slavery, devastation and death.

While man thus ravages the earth, it travels between the tropics, and turning every day on its own



axis, pursues its annual course around the sun. It is clothed with waters, forests, deserts, harvests, flowers and verdure. Calm and tempest, summer and winter, day and night, alternately smile or frown, as they succeed each other in passing over its surface. Unruly elements declare war, and dispute the empire of the air and seasons in its territories. All things change, but order, immutable order, remains as fixed as the pillars of Heaven. Like a wise monarch, it sits quietly on the delegated throne, and rules and reigns over every vicissitude, whose excesses it restrains, and whose action it directs, preserving the equilibrium of nature, regulating the movement of the earth, and revolutions of the celestial orbs.

My soul, refined and sublimated by the contemplation of these wonderful objects, falls prostrate in silence, before their Creator, whose mighty fiat produced regularity from confusion, and existence from nothing. I adore the God of order; and my soul seems to die—to shrink into annihilation, before the Omnipotent Sovereign of heaven, earth, and millions of worlds, rolling in the immensity of space. But, away with that impious thought! Revere virtue, and avoid, for the future, such horrid applications to thyself.

Consider, that he who has lived in vain, is blotted from the book of life; that he, who has committed evil, must expiate by suffering; but the just man shall arise, renewed and be happy, in a never-ending state of glorious existence.

Unchangeable Being! who holdest the balances of good and evil in thy mighty hands! Who, from the highest heaven, pourest the bitterness of remorse, and the grace of repentance, into that of the just! Great Ruler of Nature! Thou dost permit some feeble rays to shine on poor mortals, from the effulgency of that abode, where truth and justice, in



union with thee, forever reign! But nature, whom thy hand has adorned with so much beauty, continually attracts our regards, and wins our hearts.

Stars! Sun! and immeasurable vault of heaven's expanse! my soul is elevated, enlarged, aggrandized, in contemplating your wonders.

Great ocean! fertile earth! Mountains, hillocks, rivers, and meadows! I view you with astonishment and delight!

Smiling flowers! gaudy butterflies! industrious bees! amorous birds! tender children of nature! Your delicious odours, your innocent pleasures penetrate my heart, and inspire congenial sensations. I respire,—I live—I vegetate with you. How ravishing these emotions! How calm! how consoling are these delights!

Omnipotent Power! who fillest my soul with these pure, these transporting sensations. Thou! who unfoldest the embryo of life and happiness, in every point of indeterminate space! and thou, great nature, mother of mankind, and daughter of the most High! receive my profoundest homage! Thou art the gracious, permanent effect of his wisdom and power, the organ of his justice, and the instrument of his mercy! All things respire in thy bosom, as from a fruitful womb, they come forth to instinct, and existence.

Thy kind, thy comprehensive arms embrace the whole world, and thy wings overshadow and protect the birds of the air, the beasts of the forest, and the fishes of the sea. Inspired by thy genial warmth, they unite, they multiply, and each day gives birth to a new and living world.

Whilst legions of beings are receiving organs, instincts, cloathing, and perfection, at thy bountiful hand; and fulfil the laws of their existence: whilst man, walking by the light of reason, pursues the bright paths of moral rectitude, thou loadest the



earth with harvests, herbs and flowers, and the trees with delicious fruits, for the sustenance and pleasures of all.

Sometimes, thou spreadest a magnificent scarf, formed of those ever-changing clouds which bound the horizon, painted by numberless refractions of the sun's rays. Again thou collectest them in a condensed group, to shed fertility on our fields. The waters of heaven refresh the mountains, the meadows, and the corn lands; invigorating the seed, and meliorating the barren soil.

Animals come forth from their retreats, to breathe a new air; man lifts up his grateful eyes to heaven, for the seasonable refreshment, and thou showest him thy bow of many colours, magnificently stretched in the immense vault of heaven, thy royal arch, whose various beauties the sun burnishes with his finest gold, to adorn this diadem of the earth.

Sailing on the bosom of the air hanging in the midst of worlds, our globe beholds the bright star of day, the pale ruler of night, the signs of heaven, and the constellations thereof, performing their wondrous journey; whilst itself imperceptibly, describes the eternal circle of day and night, seasons and years, through thy extended empire!

It verges towards the east, and presents to the sun's view, vast oceans, studded with innumerable islands, gulfs, bays, and continents without bounds; their kingdoms, empires, and inhabitants, who, in a thousand different modes and languages, worship the divinity unknown.

And thou, bright queen of the universe! Thou waftest to heaven the incense of mankind, and wishest them all manner of good. Thou dost solicit them thereto, by exciting a desire of the pleasures and benefits thou art perpetually preparing; anxious that the gifts thou so prodigally conferest, should be communicated to all.



Thou dost impress a sentiment of existence, by every organ of perception, opening thy immense riches to our view. Thou paintest in our minds a portrait of the universe, adorned with all that can engage and charm the sensitive organ. Thou ravishest our ears with sounds, fraught with the tenderness of love; with the ecstasy of delight.

Mother of the graces! of humanity and love! it is thou who formest our hearts, and the objects that enchant them. The various senses by which those objects are perceived, are the work of thy hand. If these should happen to give pain, thou calmest the present evil, by inspiring hopes of a happy futurity.

Reason! assist thy friend and ally, nature! confirm her presages in the virtuous breast; engrave her sacred laws on our souls. Laws so just, that the wisdom of eternal equity will never change them. Proclaim to man, his title to happiness, to recompense, in a future state of being, provided he has conferred more good on his fellow-creatures, than he has received from nature, or from them; for nothing less can render him a sharer in the future reward.

Thou, who art enlightened! support the weak and instruct the ignorant, in their passage through life, by every means of humanity and justice: Thus shalt thou answer the end of creation; the felicity and perfection of all national beings. Point out the wonders of the universe, and the disinterested benevolence of its Almighty Lord, in this solemn address:

“ Creature of a day! who swellest with thy own littleness and the nothing out of which thou wert made! Behold the kind earth which supports and nourishes thee; the starry firmament that covers thee, and the sun that gives light. Contemplate his lustre; a lustre that was created for thee.—Consider what thou wert, and what is thy present existence, then judge what thou mayest be;—not by an in-



crease of thy bulk, stature, wealth or knowledge, but by the improvement of thy virtue."

And may your conduct through the dream of life, on this terrestrial globe, at length be meritorious and of wafting your immortal soul to the eternal mansions of happiness, where permanent floods of living waters run, for the benefit of the holy throng, without ceasing. May this be the happy case of all, is my sincere wish.

FINIS.















LIBRARY OF CONGRESS



00022007919

